



**Sustainable Food Policy Board
APPROVED**

**OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 22, 2012**

The Sustainable Food Policy Board (SFPB) convened on Monday, October 22, 2012, at Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex, 1156 Hargrove Street, Austin, Texas.

Board Members in Attendance:

Karla Loeb	Kathy Green	Marla Camp
Paula McDermott – Chair	Erin Flynn	Ronda Rutledge – Vice Chair
Mary Teeters	Meagan Jones	
Paige Hill		

Absent Board Members:

Michele Murphy-Smith	Rob Borowski	Katherine Nicely
Toni Tipton-Martin		

Staff in Attendance:

Marcy Alonzo, TC-HHS/VS	Robert Kingham HHSD	Cassie DeLeon, HHSD
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CALL TO ORDER

Chair Paula McDermott called the meeting to order at 12:39p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2012.

- Member Paige Hill made motion to accept the minutes.
- Member Marla Camp seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 7-0-0.
- Amendment to correct Jake Stewart's name in staff attendance.
- Member Erin Flynn off dais during vote.

2. BOARD OVERVIEW AND INTRODUCTIONS [10 MINUTES]

- Brief history of board – creation, mandate and goals.
- Board Members introduced themselves, stated relevant experience and named the Council member or County official who appointed them.

3. PRESENTATION: SUSTAINABLE FOOD POLICY BOARD WORKING GROUP DESCRIPTIONS AND UPDATES [30 MINUTES]

A. Food Security

- Synopsis presented by Member Kathy Green

B. Central Texas Food Assistance Programs

- Synopsis presented by Member Kathy Green

C. Healthy, Local, Sustainable Food in City/County Venues

- Synopsis presented by Member Kathy Green

D. City/County Bond Issues

- Synopsis presented by Vice-Chair Ronda Rutledge

- E. Retail Capacity Building
 - Synopsis presented by Chair Paula McDermott
- F. Increasing Distribution/Processing of Local Meats
 - Synopsis presented by Member Erin Flynn
- G. Affordable Water for Sustainable Farms
 - Synopsis presented by Member Erin Flynn

4. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

- A. Citizen Judith McCreary
 - Topic: Upcoming bills on local foods and agenda item 3F.
 - How meat is processed, changes in federal legislation, proposed federal bill identifying local problems and resources, state poultry processing and storage.
- B. Citizen Paula Rojas
 - Topic: Affordable access to healthier food options
 - Discussed how to do outreach to diversify board and stakeholders, food access apartheid in Austin, Where is the healthy food and who can afford it?, distribution of wealth in city, resources, staffing, bringing in health food , gentrification and racial divide.
- C. Citizen Kevin Thomas
 - Topic: Food for Black Thought
 - Discussed 2 day symposium on food marketing, retail and consumption.
- D. Citizen Brandi Burton
 - Topic: Agenda item 6B. and farmers market
 - Discussed food recovery recommendations and double dollars at farmers market.
- E. Citizen Bob Knipe
 - Topic: It's Time Texas
 - Discussed Active Life organization.
- F. Citizen Emily Summerfield
 - Topic: SNAP
 - Discussed outreach and decrease in individual benefits.
- G. Citizen Decoi
 - Topic: Food Community
 - Discussed the lack of diversity in the food community.

5. **PRESENTATIO-SUSTAINABLE URBAN AGRICULTURE AN COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM-JAKE STEWART, PARD [15 MINUTES]**

- Presentation postponed due to lack of time.

6. **DISCUSS ANDE TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION**

A. Officer Elections [10 Minutes]

- Chair
 - a. Member Marla Camp nominated Paula McDermott as Chair.
 - b. Vice-Chair Ronda Rutledge seconded nomination.
 - c. Motion passed 9-0-0.
- Vice-Chair
 - a. Member Marla Camp nominated Ronda Rutledge as Vice-Chair.
 - b. Member Mary Teeters seconded nomination.
 - c. Motion passed 9-0-0.

B. Food Recovery Recommendations [10 minutes]

- Chair Paula McDermott moved to send recommendation letter to Mayor and Council.
- Vice-Chair Ronda Rutledge seconded motion.
- Member Mary Teeters expressed concerns with letter and requested more information before making recommendation to Mayor and Council.
 - i. Member Mary Teeters moved to postpone voting on sending recommendation letter until more information was received.
 - ii. Member Kathy Green seconded motion to postpone.
 - iii. Postponement motion amended for board to postpone taking action on letter to Mayor and Council until November meeting and requested an informal meeting before next board meeting.
 - iv. Motion failed 2-7-0; board members Green and Teeters voting in favor.
- Request made that staff propose a meeting with Council
- Chair Paula McDermott opened up recommendation letter's content for discussion.
- Friendly amendment to letter to take out "address hunger issues in Austin" and change to "redirect surplus food to people in Austin" offered by board member Green and accepted by Chair McDermott.
- Motion passed 7-2-0; board members Green and Teeters voting in opposition.

C. Agriculture Property Tax Exemptions for Urban Farms [20 minutes]

- Member Marla Camp made motion to send correspondence to Mayor and Council that the City of Austin grant a tax exemption for land used for agriculture purposes.
- Member Erin Flynn seconded motion.
- Motion passed 9-0-0.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS [10 MINUTES]**

- A. Food Day Updates/Activities – October 22nd – 26th
- B. Wheatsville Board Meeting – October 30th
- C. Community Happenings
- D. Food for Black Thought Symposium – September 28th and 29th

8. SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS [5 MINUTES]

- Paula McDermott elected Sustainable Food Policy Board Chair.
- Ronda Rutledge elected Sustainable Food Policy Board Vice-Chair.
- Food Recovery Recommendation letter will be sent to Mayor and Council
- Agricultural Property Tax Exemption proposal will be made to city.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Sustainability Office Briefing (November)
- B. Working Group Reports
- C. Travis County Related Activities/Programs/Work Plans
- D. Bylaws and Agenda Setting Overview - November

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.