



Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board

**MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 13, 2019**

The Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board (ATCFPB) convened on Monday, May 13th, Street Jones Building, 1000 East 11th St, 400A, Austin, TX

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Karen Magid called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Andrea Abel, Felipe Camacho, Joi Chevalier, Roman Gonzalez, Lorig Hawkins (Vice-Chair), Karen Magid (Chair), Thomas Schroeder, Emily DeMaria Nicola, Sandra Van den Berg,

Absent Board Members:

Sharon Mays

Staff in Attendance:

Emily Ackland (Travis County), Edwin Marty, Amanda Rohlich, Sam Night

1) CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

- a) Speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda. – none

2) NEW BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS: Joi Chevalier and Roman Gonzalez

3) STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a) Urban Roots, Max Elliott, Presentation on Winnebago Lease (see back-up materials for presentation)
- b) City of Austin, Austin Public Health, Maren Lujan, Presentation on CHA/CHIP (see back-up materials for presentation and Year One Action Plan: Chronic Disease)

4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL MEETING

Board Member Emily DeMaria motioned to approve the meeting minutes from April 8th, 2019 with Board Member Lorig Hawkins seconding the motion to approve pending minor edits. Passed on a 9-0 vote.

Board Member Sharon Mays absent.

5) OLD BUSINESS

- i) Board Appointments
 - (1) Reviewed existing vacancies and skills matrix
 - (2) Discussed recruitment process
- ii) Board Infrastructure & Protocol

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- (1) Review Board Members' meetings with City and County Officials.
 - (a) Lorig Hawkins reached out to County Commissioner Travillion
 - (b) Joi Chevalier met with Judge Eckhardt, not around a specific ask but more generally
- iii) Board Recommendations Follow-up
 - (1) Use of City and County-owned Land for Urban Agriculture –
 - (a) Edwin Marty provided City update. Last month had call with Texas peer cities around how to use flood plain property for urban agriculture.
 - (b) Emily Ackland provided County update. Walnut Creek site adjacent to state jail is currently being primed for land lease for agriculture (location: 8101 FM 969, Austin, TX 78724). Soil testing underway. RFP process pending.
 - (c) City has list of potential properties for urban agriculture. Similar list does not necessarily exist at County.
 - (d) WG to consider making recommendation that Economic Development Department at County work with Emily Ackland to assess opportunities.

6) NEW BUSINESS

- i) Debrief of the Joint Sustainability Committee meeting—Karen Magid provided updates on April meeting. Budget recommendations that were due May 3rd. Committee passed several recommendations.
 - (1) Allocate funding between Equity and Sustainability Office
 - (2) Prioritize funding for full compliance of City regulations (i.e., Universal Recycling Ordinance compliance)
 - (3) Funding and formalizing liaisons with Office of Sustainability
 - (4) PARD to receive funding for pilot projects to address climate goals
 - (5) Created a new working group focused on Community Engagement
- ii) Discuss Food Policy Board's engagement with other Boards and Commissions – Andrea Abel to attend meeting next Joint Inclusion Committee on May 22nd.
- iii) Discuss Strategic Planning Session in August – using June meeting to plan for August Strategic Planning. No meeting in July.
- iv) Working Group Briefings and Recommendations
 - (1) *Build Opportunities for Food Entrepreneur* -- Sharon Mays was absent. Amanda Rohlich provided update. Connected with Service Design Lab to take on Food Pantry Permitting to help lead through process. Next meeting will be a review of research. Deliverables expected by August.
 - (2) *Food and Climate* – Karen Magid provided updates. Working on addendum to on Food and Climate to Austin Community Climate Plan. Plans to roll in to Climate Plan update. Presenting to Restore Rundberg group on May 26th. Planning focus groups around how people are choosing what they are eating and how that ties back to climate and food access. Questions are currently being developed. Creating one-pager to discuss connections between food and climate and how to link food access and climate friendly diets. Update from Emily Ackland – County interested in developed Climate Action Plan. Update from Edwin Marty on EAT Lancet policy brief.
 - (3) *Healthy Food Access to All Communities* – Andrea Abel provided updates. Last meeting had legislative updates from Judith McGeary from Food and Ranch Freedom Alliance. Working with Anneliese Lottman to do visioning process to prepare for making recommendations in early Fall. Community garden recommendations to come to board in June.

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- (4) *Support Farms & Farmers* – Thomas Schroeder provided updates. Recommendation for consideration of city and county land for urban agriculture.
 - (a) Update from Felipe Camacho on Del Valle ISD Citizens Bond Advisory Committee
 - (b) Lorig Hawkins motioned to discuss the recommendation with Andrea Abel seconding the motion
 - (i) Why parcels of USDA designated farm land. Based on their soil maps. In the Be It Resolved section, change language to include “designated *prime* farmland”
 - (ii) Limit to commercial or open to ag in general? Strike “commercial” so as to allow for non-profit and other ag uses.
 - (iii) Change Austin Travis County Food Policy Board recommends that agricultural production be considered as a best use of public acquired land on property with a USDA prime farmland designation.
 - (iv) Third Whereas, change lose to loses
 - (v) Lorig motioned, Joi seconded

Emily de Maria left the dais at 8:18 pm

- v) Review of Board Member Assignments
 - (1) Healthy Food Access WG to add report out from CHA/CHIP Chronic Disease Work Group
 - (2) All board members to email Maren Lujan with opportunities for community feedback on strategies
 - (3) Karen Magid and Lorig Hawkins to meet with their County appointees to nudge on Travillion’s vacancy
 - (4) Amanda to reach out to board members for bios / photos
 - (5) Edwin to loop Lorig into food on floodplain conversation
 - (6) Emily Ackland to send link to database of County properties GIS overlay map of USDA soil types for County
 - (7) Edwin to send link to Johns Hopkins Food Policy Network Food Database
 - (8) Edwin/Amanda to send emerging projects map and City-owned land
 - (9) Karen to send out reminder email about the Annual Internal Review Report
 - (10) Karen and Sandra to send Food and Climate work to Emily Ackland
 - (11) Send James Collins’ interactive map outlining EcoSystem services of city owned land

7) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- i) JUNE - Economic Development Department update on position and market analysis

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Karen Magid adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm

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