
Meeting Minutes

Food Policy Advisory Council – March 8, 2017

Board Room, West Pasco Government Center, 8731 Citizens Drive, New Port Richey, FL 34654

*** Meeting moved to Supervisor of Elections Training Room***

Type of Meeting: Quarterly Meeting

Location: Supervisor of Elections Training Room at the West Pasco Government Center

Meeting Facilitator: Mary Helen Duke, Planner II

FPAC Council Members in Attendance: Travis Morehead, Deanna Krautner, Lester Cypher, Dell deChant, and Jeff Wright

Non-Voting Member in Attendance: Dr. Whitney Elmore

Staff Members in Attendance: Mary Helen Duke, Planner II; Erica Wennlund, Assistant Planner; Mike Shumate, Director of Animal Services; Scott Golisano, Code Enforcement

Public: Patty Jackson, Sandy Cooper

- Call to Order/Roll Call
 - Travis Morehead, Chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM
 - Travis Morehead, Chair roll call – quorum present

- Updates On Business From Last Meeting:
 1. Approval of Minutes
 - October 5, 2016 (Special Meeting)
 - Approval of the October 5, 2016 minutes will be carried over until the next FPAC meeting. Susie Hoeller was unable to complete minutes due to family emergency.
 - December 14, 2016
 - Mr. Morehead made a motion to approve the December 14, 2016 minutes with the comment that Mr. Cypher seconded the motion to allow staff to determine if there were any substantial changes made by ODT to bring back to the Council (Page 4).

2. Urban Agriculture Ordinance (Community Gardens/Market Gardens/Community Farms)
 - Pasco County Development Review Committee – Public Hearing Continuance to March 9, 2017 1:30pm Historic Dade City Courthouse, Board Room, 2nd Floor, 37918 Meridian Avenue, Dade City, FL 33525
 - Ms. Duke handed out a PowerPoint slide with the updated definitions of Home Garden, Community Garden, Market Garden, and Community Farm from her presentation at the February 23, 2017 Development Review Committee (DRC) meeting. Ms. Duke shared that the County Attorney had concerns over the definitions of each term. Also, the table and definitions did not match up and needed to be fixed. Ms. Duke indicated that the County Attorney had a lengthy discussion during the DRC meeting. Mr. Wright added that the County Attorney was concerned over liability issues. Moreover, Ms. Duke stated that the DRC voted to continue the item until the next meeting, March 9, 2017 in Dade City at 1:30 PM because the DRC felt that the changes to the ordinance were not substantial enough to go back to FPAC for review. Mr. Morehead indicated that the biggest challenge was the County Attorney and that the Ordinance has been reviewed/ revised by several attorneys that belong to the Ordinance Development Team (ODT).
 - Ms. Duke discussed that the length of the Ordinance was attributed to the zoning classifications (27 pages) and that the meat of the Ordinance was only 12-13 pages long. Mr. Wright brought up that there needs to be a better way to present the Ordinance to the committee. Ms. Duke added that the committee was ready to move the Ordinance forward to adopt until the County Attorney questioned the definitions. Ms. Duke stated that the attorney was satisfied with the definitions being broken up and also explained the hierarchy of definitions to the Council and guests. A discussion regarding vehicle trips/sales that accompanied each definition ensued.
 - Ms. Duke shared with the Council and guests that she could not share the exact time the Ordinance would be going up to the DRC. Mr. deChant suggested that someone contact the DRC to move up the Ordinance on the agenda if the Ordinance is supposed to move quickly. Mr. Wright and Ms. Duke discussed that the dwelling in the home garden definition implied personal use.
 - FPAC Meeting Schedule (tentative) 2nd Wednesday of each month every 3 months
 - June 14, 2017 10AM – 1PM
 - September 13, 2017 10AM – 1PM
 - December 13, 2017 10AM – 1PM

3. Food Policy Assessment (Deana Krautner, Pasco County Health Department)
- Ms. Krautner informed the Council and guests that this meeting would be her last meeting. She is relocating and leaving the Health Department. Mr. deChant thanked Ms. Krautner for her service. Mr. Kraunter let the council know she would be emailing out the assessment electronically and not to worry about the format. She discussed that Page 3 of the report entailed the data analysis about the County's food system and she welcomed feedback from the Council to add in. She discussed the coordination of farmers markets and the distribution. She added that there was an interest in urban agriculture. She discussed the presence of urban agriculture in schools and the connection to institutions as well as community farms' enhancement of economic development. She added that different crop methods were needed. It was stated the loss of prime farmland might be added into the assessment.
 - Ms. Krautner moved on to discuss the highlights section of the assessment. Ms. Krautner went on to ask the Council if there were any other highlights that should be included. Dr. Elmore stated that Pasco County was in the top 5 of livestock production.
 - Ms. Krautner discussed Page 11 of the assessment which included processing and distributions. Ms. Duke suggested they pull information from the property tax records to add into that section. Mr. Morehead shared that he could not find any information to add into that section. Ms. Duke stated that she would request a "data dump" of information.
 - Mr. deChant mentioned that information should be added regarding the cottage industry. Dr. Elmore mentioned that Lacoochee in Dade, City would be an ideal place for a processing and distribution center due to proximity to the port and the runway. Ms. Duke asked Dr. Elmore for a list of vendors that participated in the Cottage Industry Expo. Dr. Elmore replied that there were no real vendors, only vendors like the Farm Bureau.
 - Ms. Krautner wanted to add in reference of the community resident survey. She suggested that the survey collect interest on chickens, mobile food trucks, and the cottage industry. Dr. Elmore suggested that IFAS/UF customer satisfaction surveys from the university standpoint. Ms. Krautner said that on Pgs. 15-16 can incorporate list of schools with community gardens. Moreover, Dr. Elmore said that on Pgs.12-14 to add in the agriculture assistant that came on board. She also said that the east side had missed growing season. Mr. deChant mentioned that New Port Richey has a number of community gardens and their distinction may be of interest. Mr. Morehead brought up the stakeholder survey on farmers markets that will be on Page 17 of the assessment. Ms. Duke commented that she has been looking at code regulations impacting food system standards as well as growing and selling produce. Ms. Krautner mentioned that there was an exemption for flea markets. Ms. Krautner said that she did not know if any incentives to bring in grocers. Mr. Morehead had questions regarding the \$1000 fee. Mr. Wright indicated that more information was needed about the exemption. Mr. deChant said that the wholesale

language stood out.

- Ms. Krautner asked the Council to let her know if changes needed to be made to the acknowledgements. Mr. deChant applauded Ms. Krautner for her tremendous effort. Ms. Krautner reiterated that to let her know if more information should be added and mentioned she would add in loss of prime farmland, that livestock production was in the top 5, and also the increasing interest in organic production. Also, Page 11 would add in property tax records. The cottage industry information was brought up in discussion. Dr. Elmore said she would get in touch with the Lacochee folks. She mentioned that calls about processing do not come through her office. Mr. deChant mentioned to include anecdotal information about the rise of cottage industry products and the interest around cottage industry products.
- Ms. Duke mentioned she would check about how medical cannabis will handle food distribution.
- Ms. Krautner said she would add in a map of school community gardens on Page 16 and would reach out to New Port Richey. Mr. Morehead mentioned Habitat for Humanity's community garden; Dr. Elmore mentioned the Zephyrhills community garden; Mr. Cypher mentioned the Moonlake and Congress community gardens. Mr. deChant said that the assessment is more than just a great start but virtually at the finish line. He also asked about the status of the assessment once it is completed. Ms. Duke replied that it would be a public document and the draft can be posted on the FPAC website. Once the assessment is completed, it can move forward for adoption. She also mentioned that there is a lack of food policy mentioned in the Comprehensive Plan.
- Ms. Krautner commented that she will have a replacement from the Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger.
- Mr. deChant asked if the assessment would be a part of the public domain once passed by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). He stated he was worried about the assessment being filed away. Ms. Duke mentioned that the assessment can have a communications plan. Mr. deChant said that the talent in room can distribute and discuss the assessment in order to reach out to the public about the assessment.
- Ms. Krautner mentioned that the epidemiologist on staff will help develop an infographic.
- Mr. deChant made a motion to put a draft of the assessment up on the FPAC website. Mr. Cypher seconded the motion. All were in favor.
 - **Motion:** Put a draft of the assessment up on the FPAC website.
 - **Action:** *Motion passed unanimously.*

4. Backyard Chickens

- Ms. Duke noted this was a Tier III Priority for Board of County Commission.
- In regards to owning backyard chickens in Pasco County, Mr. Golisano from Code Enforcement stated that he would like to see roosters omitted and would like to see the number of chickens limited. He mentioned citizen complaints. Majority of complaints were about their neighbors. Mr. Morehead said that he

also agreed on the omission of roosters, an adequate size of the coop, and that the chickens could be free-range. He also mentioned that about half of the Council was not in favor of a backyard chicken ordinance. Mike Shumate, the Director of Animal Services mentioned that chickens were being kept as emotional animals. Mr. Golisano shared that they had caught a woman moving chickens to an abandoned house who had received a citation. She was arrested, but the County had to place the 100+ chickens. Although it was discussed amongst Council members that chickens roamed Ybor, Dr. Elmore mentioned that the issue of backyard chickens keeps coming back around in places that have passed chicken ordinances. She said that they end up regretting passing a chicken ordinance. She said that an ordinance would not keep people from hoarding chickens and that backyard chickens could not feed a family. Mr. Cypher said he was worried about the animal's welfare if the person decided he or she did not want to have a chicken anymore.

- Mr. Wright indicated that he would like to focus FPAC's efforts on veggie trucks. He made a motion to table backyard chickens. Mr. deChant seconded the motion. Discussion followed.
- Ms. Duke clarified what was meant by Tier III. She said that priorities were listed out during at a BCC workshop and that food trucks and farmers markets did not make it on the list at all. It was developed with the prior BCC and cannot tell the Council how the BCC would feel about those items today.
- Mr. Morehead mentioned tabling backyard chickens for a year. Mr. Wright asked to amend the motion to not include the timeline. All were in favor of amending the motion.
 - **Motion:** Table backyard chicken ordinance discussion.
 - **Action:** *Motion passed unanimously.*

5. Public Comment

- Ms. Jackson from Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger shared that the network is looking for locations to bring buses into food deserts within Pasco County to feed individuals under eighteen (18) years old. She commented that they were looking at Sims Park to distribute food. Mr. Morehead replied that New Port Richey passed an ordinance to limit feeding anyone. She asked the council if anyone knows of any barriers the network would be facing. Mr. Wright replied that maybe she could do a workaround and get a private company to sponsor the network. He mentioned that she had the possibility of getting an exemption. Ms. Duke suggested Acorn Street as a possible location to deliver food. Ms. Jackson shared that the network chose the park as a possible location because they want to be able to have kids eat in the park. Mr. Morehead told Ms. Jackson that she needs get the issue onto the agenda and be clear that they would be feeding individuals under eighteen (18). Ms. Duke suggested the Recreation Center on Van Buren as a location. Ms. Jackson said that the network is focused on reaching kids not in programs. Mr. deChant said to check with the Recreation Center first and see if something is there; there could trouble at Sims Park. Ms. Krautner commented that that New Port Richey cannot say no to

feeding children, they were awarded the Healthy Weight Community Champion Award.

- Ms. Jackson commented that they had numerous buses, just not enough mobile sites. Mr. Morehead told Ms. Jackson to keep him in the loop and that he has a friend with a podcast that would definitely be interested in talking about the program on-air.
- Ms. Cooper shared with everyone that she was sitting in for Caitlyn Peacock and that the Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger's meetings were open and that she would love for everyone to attend.

■ New Business to Discuss:

1. Farmers Markets

- Mr. Morehead commented about the farmers' markets fees (\$200 vs \$1000 fee). He asked about if the fee was to be paid on a yearly basis or at each event. He questioned whether it would be cost prohibitive. Ms. Krautner mentioned Gill Dawgs. Mr. De Chant asked about the language in the document regarding wholesale farmers' markets. Mr. Morehead shared that he contacted Hillsborough County's Building Permit division, however got disconnected. He said he also contacted Pinellas County and will call Hillsborough County again.
- Ms. Duke commented that each county does it differently and that farmers' markets were mentioned in LDC 601.D that said plazas were allowed to have farmers' markets take place for civic purposes. She said that was the only reference to farmers' markets she could find in the LDC. She said she could not find anything in the Comprehensive Plan, but would gather information together. Ms. Duke mentioned 902.2 as an interim use and that there were three references of farmers' markets in the LDC. She said that she would gather research on St. Pete and City of Tampa and that she would find other examples in Florida. She said she would send out an email with links to help develop language. Mr. deChant said that they should prioritize what will be most helpful and suggested to look at APA data. Ms. Duke replied that she will look at PAS reports and Beaverton, Oregon's ordinance. Dr. Elmore suggested contacting Danny Rollerson (Fresh from Florida).
- Ms. Duke shared that there is limited time to devote on the ordinance according to Mr. Hughes. She said that the Food Policy Assessment is the first priority. Ms. Krautner asserted that food trucks are separate from mobile produce. Mr. Morehead agreed that they should be separated and said that he wanted to concentrate on veggie vans.
- Ms. Elmore asked what type of processing would be required. Ms. Duke replied that they still need to define it. Ms. Elmore suggested requesting volunteers to process to cut down on costs.
- Ms. Duke shared that she would be inviting Denise Hernandez (Manager of Zoning and Intake) to the next meeting.
- Mr. Wright commented processing means getting washed. Ms. Duke asked about occupancy. Mr. Wright replied 10 x 10 tents. He also discussed food

inspections. Ms. Krautner said that the Department of Agriculture does not apply if processed. Ms. Duke shared she would send links to models.

2. Food Trucks

- Ms. Krautner discussed mobile food trucks. Ms. Duke indicated that food trucks were illegal in the County because of on-site food preparation. Mr. Wright mentioned that brick and motor restaurants were afraid of food trucks parking near their businesses. Dr. Elmore brought up that there needs to be a distinction between a food truck and a veggie van.
- Mr. Wright commented that it was not in their purview to look at for-profit vendor food trucks and that it did not help with their food assessment. Mr. Morehead said they should concentrate on veggie vans. He also asked if food trucks were charged the same fee as farmers markets. Ms. Elmore noted that SNAP could be used and that the transaction would have to be paid. Ms. Krautner commented that Florida Hospital brings in mobile produce and mentioned community programs/educational components already in existence. Mr. Cypher suggested churches as a possible site and that it should be stipulated that non-profits not have to pay a fee. Ms. Duke commented that Zoning and Intake staff will have to spend time with registry and that it would be an administrative decision if fee were to be waived for non-profits.

3. Meeting Guidelines (Sue Hoeller)

- Ms. Duke shared that Sue Hoeller indicated concern about members of the public disrupting. Rules of decorum could be considered and drafted. Mr. Wright commented that the member of the public that disrupted was borderline disrespectful. Mr. Wright commented that chair should acknowledge members of public before they decide to interrupt. Mr. Morehead agreed. Mr. deChant suggested three minutes per person per Florida statute.
- Ms. Duke shared that Mr. Morehead could read a paragraph at the beginning of each meeting and at each agenda item. Ms. Jackson commented that the agenda provided today let her know when to comment.

■ 2017 Meeting Schedule/Next Meeting Date

- Mr. Morehead shared that the next meeting is scheduled for June 14, 2017, 10AM – 1PM.

■ Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM
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Respectfully Submitted,

Erica Wennlund
Assistant Planner

FPAC Approved 06/14/2017