



Meeting Minutes

Work Group: City Innovations

Date: Thursday, June 17, 2010

Time: 5:30-6:30

Location: Alameda County PHD, 1000 Broadway

Attendance

Margot Prado, Heather Wooten, Nicole Schneider (intern with Heather), Nathan McClintock, Chris Waters, Beth Sanders, and Colleen Lynch (both interns with Food First).

Agenda Item 1: Review of Plan for Action

1a. Goals/Recommendations Comments

Discussion:

- Should be aware of naming potential partners in a public document
- Margot commented on Neighborhood listing Inner City Advisors as a group to work with-this group is not necessarily looking at local development
- Public-private partnerships should be more specific, ie HHS should be specified
- Environmental services could be a partner in the composting policy recommendations
- The goal for mobile vending should be re-phrased. Include statement about enriching areas that already have food access and supporting current food deserts. Include both push cart and mobile vending because these are actually separate categories. Be sure that public health regulations are not limiting.
- Spoke about unfair vending system where people are sent out from a central location to sell items, but the central person does not deal with legal repercussions.
- Beth asked Heather about if she would be willing to help draft the "Healthy People" overall policy recommendation template for the larger group due to her expertise and background. Heather said that she would help with this, but feels that it makes more sense to split up the recommendations on a smaller level within each working group.

Action:

- Heather will re-word the 6 policy recommendations for the city innovations group
- Beth will try to locate previous wording of these policy recommendations from previous meetings and send them to Heather to assist with the re-writing process

1b. Template Comments

Discussion:

- The group discussed having one template or page per recommendation or policy for a total of 24 from all the groups, with overlap this may be reduced to 20 or 21 total.
- The sample templates are too long and should be one page each; an appendix could be added with more details. We should be able to use these one-pagers as advocacy pieces and in presentations. They easily communicate the council's ideas and are easy for diverse populations to understand.
- Discussed if readers would be more interested in the group names (ie city innovations) or the goal names. If the goals are used, people will figure out where they fit in and go with the issues they are interested in.
- We should have a reference or source list. An endnotes section could be included to say-"see these reports" and the online version could have a library or resources with links to reports.
- Oakland libraries should have a food reference section. Could include books like How to Start a Garden, Omnivore's Dilemma, copies of local food assessments and the OFPC action plan, and films like Food Inc. 81st Ave Library is a possible place to start. This should be a task for the Neighborhood group and could connect with their idea of creating curriculum for the community. (this idea was brought up in the large group check-in)
- The group went through and came up with a new template format that re-arranged and eliminated a few sections.
 - Each overarching goal should be color-coded
 - Combine opportunities and needs into one section
 - Related legislation should be listed at the bottom in broad statements
 - Include links to best-practices or "model cities" for action

Action:

- Nathan will send a copy of the group's new template to Alethea.
- Margot mentioned a graphical prototype during the group check-in, which she can also send to interns (Colleen and Beth).
- Each person was assigned to write-up one of the templates for the group: Urban ag-Nathan; Fresh Food Financing-Heather; Nicole-Farmers Market zoning; Margot-mobile vending; Chris-composting/recycling; Jenny should lead the local purchasing write-up

1c. Policy Scan Comments

Discussion:

- There are a few priorities that say there is no policy, when in fact there is. It may be a matter of how well these "policies" are implemented.
 - Ag education-Alameda county school garden programs and cooperative extension should be covering this. Also the Small Farm Center at UC Davis providing education. County nutrition ed programs would claim to cover food literacy as well.
 - Farmers' market zoning-there is a gap in the legislation that does exist, local ag and farmers' market legislation are contradictory

- Purchasing protocol-the OUSD Wellness Policy (2007) included this and nutrition services is based on this policy, which was actually more stringent than the state recommendations for school food.
- These purchasing policies should be a top priority for OFPC.
- Composting-Chris read an email he received from Peter Slope regarding WMAC. He stated that they have a standing contract with city parks and rec to provide a certain amount of compost.

Action:

- Chris will get in touch with recommended contact at WMAC, David Tucker, to discuss how much compost they produce, and how much can possibly be returned or resold in Oakland
- Interns will look at Alameda County, Cooperative Extension, and OUSD wellness policy to verify already existing policies to include in the Policy Scan document charts.

Agenda Item 2: Zoning Recommendations

Discussion:

- There is a Zoning Update meeting on Wednesday, 6/23/10. We should have a representative go to make a brief statement to include recommendations about urban ag, farmers' markets, and mobile food vending. Can refer to other cities' best practices and state how Oakland can be a leader in this area.
- Update on CityScape Farms from Margot. The City has not taken action on this yet, there are questions of having a greenhouse on industrial land and wording in the code about growing herbs is holding back approval. We should send letter to Planning Commissioners.

Action:

- Margot will verify time/location on 6/23 zoning meeting for Nathan
- Margot and Heather will assist with writing a short statement to read at the meeting
- Nathan will represent and read the statement at the meeting

Agenda Item 3: Oakland Museum

Discussion:

- Margot has been in touch with Lori Fogarty at the Museum and she has agreed to arrange a meeting with the chief historical curator, adult program manager, and events manager. Working with Alethea to pin down a date for a meeting.
- OFPC will be asking the museum to co-sponsor a weekend event where new OFPC info will be released, would also like to have Oakland food history display in the museum to accompany this.
- Nathan mentioned contacting people like Michael Pollan and Dick Walker in advance to get this date on their calendars to attend.

Action:

- Margot will follow-up with Alethea about setting up this meeting

Action Items

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- Margot will verify time/location on 6/23 zoning meeting for Nathan who will make a statement
- Margot will follow-up with Alethea about setting up meeting with Oakland Museum

Minutes submitted by Colleen Lynch.