



ACTION TEAM MINUTES



FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes 05/18/2021

Time: 9:00 am – 10:30 am

1. Introductions

Attendees: Lori Adkins (Oakland Schools), Katherine Body (Gleaners), Caira Boggs (Beaumont Health), David Bowman (St. Joseph Mercy Oakland), Breanna Bradley (OLHSA), Tony Drautz (OCHD), Anne Ginn (Forgotten Harvest), Kristine Hahn (MSU-E), Joy Hartman (Waterford School District), Christine Hodge (Oakland Schools-Great Start Collaborative), Ashley Krasicky (OLHSA), Theresa Krell (St. Joseph Mercy Oakland), Rita Little (OCHD), Rebecca Majestic (Gleaners), Monica Martinez (OLHSA), Elizabeth Onye (OCHD), Carlos Santacruz (Fair Food Network), Lindsay TerHaar (OCHD), Erica Willemssen (Macomb County Health Department), Kelly Wilson (Taste the Local Difference), Amanda Woods (OCHD), Joann Wrobel (OCHD)

Guests: Stacy Bishop and Jermaine “Max” Branner (Pontiac Farmers Market), Amanda Sweetman and Katelyn Smoger (The Farm at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland), Heidi Hudd (Intern, Taste the Local Difference), Christine Bielicki (Beaumont Health, AmeriCorp)

Introductions were made.

2. DEI Cohort Update- Kristine Hahn

Kristine shared the DEI cohort has put together an evidence table regarding best practices around increasing membership diversity, improving community participation, and ensuring equity within OCFPC. They will be reviewing the recommendations, selecting a model, and seeking feedback from council members about the chosen model. If you have questions or would like provide additional feedback, email Kristine (hahnk@msu.edu) or Amanda (woodsa@oakgov.com). The cohort may request additional feedback between meetings. Amanda will notify council members via email.

3. Pontiac Farmers Market – Stacy Bishop and Jermaine “Max” Branner

Stacy and Jermaine introduced themselves, and kicked off the presentation showing a [video](#) about the new Pontiac Farmers Market. The vision is for the market to become a community hub with cooking demonstrations, nutrition education, and fitness workshops. OCFPC member, Kristine Hahn (MSU-E), has started a demonstration garden at the market.

The market will operate on Saturdays from 12-6 PM at the Pontiac Public Library Parking Lot (60 E. Pike St.). On Friday nights, the market will host food truck rallies and live entertainment. The community preview day is June 11th and the grand opening is June 26th.

If you have questions about the market and want to learn more, contact Stacy (phone: 248-343-5571 or email support@pontiacfarmersmarket.org).



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4. The Farm at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland

Amanda and Katelyn gave a presentation about the new farm at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland. The PowerPoint presentation is included as an attachment with the minutes. Amanda and Katelyn shared the farm location and how the farm will be integrated into the daily routine for clinicians, patients, and staff. The farm will offer several benefits, including therapeutic spaces for staff, patients, and their families; fresh cut flower garden; and a farm share opportunity. Produce grown at the farm will be donated to staff and/or patients. Katelyn ended the presentation with the following “asks:”

- Join the Farm Share: [St Joe's Oakland Farm Share](#)
- Tell us your ideas: email OaklandFarm@stjoeshealth.org or Katelyn.Smoeger@stjoeshealth.org
- Volunteer: email Barbara.Stephen@stjoeshealth.org to learn how
- Share our paid internship position: [Agriculture and Community Health Internship](#)
- Follow us on social media: [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)
- Donate to the Farm: [Oakland - Farm Donation Form](#)

5. 2021 Capacity Discussion: SNAP/DFUB Expansion in Oakland County

First, members completed a brief Nearpod survey to assess if members and/or their organizations are currently working on SNAP/DFUB expansion and if they or their organizations are currently working with vendors that accept SNAP and DFUB.

The chairs planned a conversation on the next steps required to move the objective forward. The planned discussion did not occur due to time constraints. All members, regardless of May meeting attendance, will be asked to respond to a survey. The results will be reviewed and compiled by the chairs, and sent out to members by mid-June.

Complete the [survey](#) by survey **June 11th EOB**

If you have trouble accessing the link above, copy and paste into browser:
https://oakgov.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8we1TYbZQSPAsw6

6. Policy Updates (shared via minutes only)

- **Child Nutrition Update:** Lori Adkins provided an extensive written update which includes an update on school meal flexibilities, P-EBT, and 10 Cents a Meal. See email attachment included with the minutes.
- **SNAP:** Starting in May, all households that receive food assistance benefits will be eligible for additional benefits. Previous expansion did not include all households. Now all households will receive an extra \$95/month, even if they have been receiving the maximum allowed for their household. [Read the MDHHS press release about the expanded benefits.](#)
- **WIC:** “The Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act” extended USDA’s authority to approve new waivers for the WIC Program through Sept. 30, 2021 and to maintain flexibilities by



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offering remote services. For example, Michigan mothers and children receiving WIC benefits can continue to have their benefits added remotely. New clients may continue to be certified virtually.

7. Partner Updates (shared via minutes only)

- If you have updates you would like to be shared with the council, please email Amanda (woods@oakgov.com) and include in the email title: "Share with OCFPC."
- Members reviewed and approved the final draft of the OCFPC logo. This version incorporated member feedback given late 2020.
- Lori Adkins, Oakland Schools: See policy updates above and the email attachment included with the meeting minutes.
- Kelly Wilson, Taste the Local Difference: The Local Food Guide is here! If folks are interested in 25 or more copies, please email kelly@localdifference.org to be added to the distribution list. If folks would like a copy for personal use, they can order one here. Taste the Local Difference also launched the [Fresh Food Box Program](#).
- Caira Boggs, Beaumont Health: Beaumont has partnered with Aunt Bertha to host the Beaumont Community Resource Network (BCRN). This online platform is a social care network that connects people and programs. In order to make it easier for people to find social services in their communities, nonprofits to coordinate their efforts, and customers to integrate social care into the work they already do, Beaumont needs your help claiming your programs. Claiming your program allows you to access and update your program's information, create intake screeners and eligibility assessments, review reporting and analytics tools, and more. If you have any questions email: BCRN@Beaumont.org.

8. Action Items

- **All members:** Complete SNAP/DUFB membership capacity survey by **June 11th**. Use this survey [link](#).

9. Next Meeting: July 20, 2021, 9:00-10:30 AM.