



VANCOUVER FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

A meeting of the Vancouver Food Policy Council was held on Thursday, September 09, 2021, at 6:04pm, by electronic means. The meeting was open to members of the public.

PRESENT:

- Miluska Bravo
- Alice Briggs
- Emily Burkholder
- Sarah Common
- Katherine Cooper
- Clare Cullen
- Jyotika Dangwal
- Sharon Dong
- Khalid Jamal
- Taelyr Keeley
- Ivy Leong
- Ben Liegey
- Joey Liu
- Rasoul Narimani
- Michelle Reining
- Marc Schutzbank
- Anthony Sullivan
- Kae Yee Tsai
- Carol White

ABSENT:

- Evan Bowness
- Leona Brown

ALSO PRESENT:

- Caitlin Dorward, Social Planner, Social Policy and Projects, Staff Liaison
- Rebecca Till, Environmental Stewardship Coordinator
- Vancouver Park Board, Staff Liaison
- Trustee Estrellita Gonzales, Vancouver School Board
- Councillor Michael Wiebe, City of Vancouver

RECORDER: Vicky Baker

WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged that we are meeting on the stolen and ancestral homelands of the *w̓məθkʷəy̓ əm* (Musqueam), *sk̓wx̓wú7mesh* (Squamish), and *sel̓ílwitulh* (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations

where food has been grown for thousands of years, and reminded members of the commitment to honour this as part of Truth and Reconciliation and justice.

1. Housekeeping reminders and motion to approve July 2021 minutes

Members of the public are muted by default, but can use chat. Six members of the public attended. Council members were reminded that voting must be done verbally and that items in the chat are not recorded in the minutes.

It was confirmed that approval of July minutes is not needed as it was an informal meeting.

2. Welcoming New Members

Three new members have joined the committee to fill vacancies – Jyotika Dangwal, Katherine Cooper, and Leona Brown. Katherine and Jyotika introduced themselves.

3. Park Board Community Centre Strategy

Announcements from staff and invitation to focused meeting Sept. 15th

Rebecca Till provided an overview of the strategy on behalf of the team who is working on it. This is a new citywide strategy to enable current community centre service levels to be sustained while meeting the needs of a growing population. The team has engaged stakeholders to ensure the process is founded on equity and meeting diverse needs. Members are encouraged to fill out the survey <https://shapeyourcity.ca/ccstrategy>

The intention is to incorporate this new input as part of the Local Food System Action Plan (LFSAP) update. The VFPC is invited to join a stakeholder session Sept 15; the team will also take written feedback.

Discussion

As part of the LFSAP update, staff looked at the 2016 CoV dataset on city-affiliated kitchens and infrastructure needs, and compared it with community centres' waitlist data that listed kitchens as having high / med / low demand. The results show which are heavy in demand in relation to areas not well served and those that have potential opportunities. It is important for staff to understand how community kitchen access relates to food security.

The question was asked if there are enough human resources to support the work in the physical spaces. REBECCA will ask the Community Centre Strategy team and report back.

4. Overview of City of Vancouver Food Policy

Presentation from staff liaisons [appended below]

Caitlin reviewed the presentation she sent earlier to help ensure an understanding of how the City works, as related to food, including related strategies and directions that need input.

- Municipal jurisdiction and tools – often focus on land use planning (e.g. Broadway Plan, Vancouver Plan), also many other types of policies affect food. There are several tools to support work in this area.
- CoV food policy (history, key documents, work across department) – The VFPC was formed in 2004 after the community advocated for it. Social Policy has three staff that work on food, and food policy exists in other areas of the City. Caitlin provided examples of food policy links in other departments.

- Rebecca gave an overview of the Park Board's work on food. The LFSAP update is being done in collaboration with the new Decolonizing Arts and Culture team. Others include the recreational services division (that includes community centre kitchens), diverse food assets in parks, and the Sustenance Festival.
- The LFSAP goals were outlined and upcoming work will focus on implementing actions from the plan.
- Staff provided additional resources for more information on City operations

Questions/discussion

- What are the tools now politically and logistically effective? Where is most strategic for VFPC to engage on larger questions?
Timely pieces are the LFSAP update, the Vancouver Plan (citywide long-term vision for land use, high level policy that other strategies will be under), and the Broadway Plan. Staff hopes to bring draft food policy directions from these Plans to VFPC in Oct for review.
- Members are also invited to speak at Park Board meetings such as the upcoming LFSAP report. There can be strong opponents of equity projects, need to have underrepresented voices would be helpful.
- Previously talked about Covid recovery (gaps in service, increased demand for food, opportunities to work with Indigenous partners), will that discussion happen?
Social Policy food team is currently scoping a project to review and reflect on the City's COVID food response. VFPC input will be requested.

5. Elected Liaison Updates

- Trustee Gonzalez
 - Feeding approx. 2,600 students daily
 - Food Framework Ad Hoc Committee – a Terms of Reference has been drafted and shared with stakeholder executives. The next step is to take it to SLWB for feedback and then put out a request for committee members to start developing the 10-year vision. This work was postponed at the start of the pandemic. It on the agenda for next SLWB meeting.
 - Cafeteria update: There will be some changes to the District's Food Service operations beginning in September 2021 that will have District staff (IUOE) produce hot/cold breakfast and hot lunch for students participating in the Food4School program by September 2022. A summary of the plan follows:
 - September 2021
 - Britannia and Templeton will become commissary kitchens and produce cold lunches
 - District staff (CUPE407) will deliver lunches from commissary kitchens to schools
 - Centre Café will stop food sales permanently and operate as a place for staff to gather
 - Centre Café staff will be reassigned to the commissary kitchens
 - July/August 2022
 - Food Services will upgrade the equipment at the commissary kitchens (Britannia and Templeton) to allow for hot lunch production
 - September 2022
 - VSB staff will produce hot lunches for students participating in the Food4School and previous Hot Lunch programs
 - District staff (CUPE407) will deliver lunches from commissary kitchens to schools
 - VSB staff produce all cold breakfast for students
 - All contracted breakfast/lunch production will cease

- Councillor Wiebe – supported development of the LFAP and work on kitchen program while at Park Board. Now at City Council, and is looking forward to meeting everyone, there is an opportunity to push policies, wants to see bold policies to improve wellbeing.

It was noted that there could be more specific direction from City Council on what could be supported by the VFPC. Notifications of food-related motions can be sent to the mailing list. Leadership team can check in before VFPC meetings, and can use the Future Agenda Planning document to prioritize work.

6. Nominations for Administrative Team

The following members are seeking nomination as the Administrative Team: Carol White, Michelle Reining, Sarah Common, Marc Schutzbank.

MOVED by Clare Cullen
SECONDED by Alice Briggs

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the VFPC nominates members Carol White, Michelle Reining, Sarah Common, Marc Schutzbank to form the VFPC's Administrative Team for the 2021-2022 term, including sharing the role of elected Chair/Co-Chair outlined in the Guidelines for Advisory Bodies.

It was clarified that an abstention from a vote in a meeting is counted in favour of the motion. In order to not vote, members need to leave the meeting for the vote.

CARRIED
(Katherine Cooper absent for the vote)

It was noted that new members are always welcome on the Leadership team.

7. Other business

Upcoming community events:

- Vancouver Urban Food Forest Foundation - Food Week <http://vufff.org/foodweek>
- Eat Think Vote 2021- <https://youtu.be/WnxBgoM-t7I>

8. Adjournment (Motion to Adjourn)

MOVED by Marc Schutzbank
SECONDED by Emily Burkholder

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, October 14, 2021
TIME: 6:00-8:30pm
PLACE: WebEx Online

The Committee adjourned at 7:17pm.

* * * * *