Present: Robert Clackett, Adam Watson, Liz Shaver-Heeney, Maciej Kowalski, Vicki Edwards, Judi Childs, Melanie Golba, Simon Taylor, Councillor Bratina, Sarah Wakefield, Ursula Samuels, Councillor Pasuta, Russ Ohrt

Absent with Regrets: Sue Coverdale, Tina Moffat, Karen Burson, Carolyn Cade, Tabaruk Jahan, Councillor McHattie, Chris Krucker, Emma Cubitt, Brian Kreps

Also Present: Dave Carson, Sue Carson

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA
Additions:
5.2 Update on community garden policy

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
There were no declarations of interest.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
(Mover/Seconder)
3.1 Postponed to January, 2010 due to lack of quorum.

4. PRESENTATIONS
4.1 There were no presentations.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS
5.1 Subcommittee Reports
Education and Outreach – Simon Taylor
- Committee is in the process of applying for funding, purchasing web space for one year, and gathering programming ideas.

Coordination and Networking
- no report

Enhancing Community Food Access and Services – Brian Kreps (via email)
- A meeting of interested parties to talk about mapping food “outlets” is being scheduled.

Policy – Sarah Wakefield
- One meeting was held to explore policies that support farmers’ market development. Next step will involve meeting with farmers and stall holders at markets to assess barriers and potential city solutions. An exploration of what other cities have done with this issue is planned.
- A concern was raised about the ability of the city to support a large number of farmers’ markets – at what point do they begin to compete with each other and with local retailers?
- Councillor Bratina provided the following link on the city website for information about the downtown market renovations: www.hamilton.ca/foodforthought/

5.2 Update on community garden policy
- Committee members are responding to the Notice of Motion tabled at the Board of Health on Nov. 23 by Councillor McHattie: “That the Public Health department work with other departments as necessary to come forward with a Community Garden Policy, including but not limited to: criteria for establishing new community gardens, garden plot allocation policies, and a budget for establishing new community gardens, and bring forward the policy in time for deliberation during the 2010 budget process.”
- To inform this policy a survey of community members was distributed and all were encouraged to summit responses by Dec. 11. http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NS3GFX6
- Public works and Public Health will be drafting a policy with input from the research conducted by Erika Jermé and Sarah’s assistance and welcome any information people have to share.
- Policy drafts will be circulated to members for input.

5.3 Debriefing on Consultants' report from November 4, 09 meeting
- Some members felt that the report was reactive and did not provide enough vision. The committee is planning a response for The Friends of the Greenbelt and city staff. Melanie and Sarah will draft a response that will be brought to the committee for input. It was noted that Niagara was interested in moving forward.
- Councillor Pasuta will request hard copies of the report for all members.
5.4 Proposed animal control by-law
- Sarah and Councillor Pasuta attended a meeting hosted by the Flamborough Fur and Feather Fanciers Association to discuss the proposed by-law that would limit farm animals to registered farms in Hamilton. As a committee, we are not able to come to a consensus on allowing farm animals in the city, and do not support hosting a public meeting on this topic.
- Sarah will send the by-law information to committee members. Members can contact Paul Buckle with individual views and to advocate for public consultations to discuss the pros and cons as desired.

5.5 Strategic planning for 2010
- Strategic planning was deferred to January due to low attendance. The discussion will include key accomplishments in 2009, priorities in 2010, experience of committee members (are your expectations as a committee member met?), succession planning, preferred role of the committee as a working group or as an advisory committee, how to better link community food security to issues of hunger, how to proactively engage more people in the community, and structure.
- Councillor Bratina reminded the committee that the original mandate was as an advisory group to council to bring forward ways to develop a sustainable self-reliant food system similar to Sudbury’s Foodshed project: [http://www.foodshedproject.ca](http://www.foodshedproject.ca)

6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Russ attended the Urban Agriculture Conference in Guelph and heard reports of existing operations all over North America. The findings will be disseminated in January at the Guelph organics conference.

6.2 A celebration for clients is planned for clients at Hamilton Urban Core on Dec. 23. Food donations are welcome.

6.3 The Emergency Food Strategic Plan was approved by Council two weeks ago. Brian will distribute to the CFSSC committee.

7. ADJOURNMENT

(Russ Ohrt/Simon Taylor)
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm. CARRIED