MINUTES
COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, September 3, 2008
4:00 p.m., Room 400E
City Centre, 4th Floor
77 James St. N., Hamilton

Present: Co-Chairs: Councillor Pasuta, Sarah Wakefield
Stakeholders: Carolyn Cade
Emma Cubitt
Mel Fisher
Melanie Golba
Tabaruk Jahan
Maceij Kowalski
Tina Moffat
Russel Ohrt
Simon Taylor

City Councillors: Councillor McHattie
City of Hamilton Staff: Susan Coverdale
Vicki Edwards
Elizabeth Shaver Heeney
Brian Kreps
Angela Parle
Adam Watson
Judi Childs

Absent with Regrets: Sarah Megens
Willy Hekman
Councillor Bratina

Also Present:

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(Mover/Seconder)

3.1 Deferred

CARRIED

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Review of June 4, 2008 meeting
Sarah provided a brief review of the discussions at the June 4 meeting:
- Emphasis on a strong community capacity to build upon.
- Weaknesses are internal and external.
- Identified a need to think about an organizing mechanism to bring people together.
- Food security policy in Hamilton, enhanced food education and marketing were suggested.
- A need was seen to engage with city planning and restaurant sector.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Food Policy Primer (using elements of CFS workbook)
Small groups identified strategies being used now (or strategies that could be used in the future) in Hamilton to address food security and placed them into:
- short term relief strategies
- strategies that build individual and community capacity
- system change strategies

5.2 Discussion of Committee Objectives & Goals
Small groups identified possible activities for this committee to pursue.

5.3 Prioritization of Goals, Timeline Development
The possible activities discussed in small groups were shared with the whole committee and the following priorities were identified:

i. Creation of a local coordination network to facilitate connections between producers, wholesalers, retailers, institutional food service providers, etc.
ii. Exploring the possibility of creating a Hamilton Food Terminal (or similar)
iii. Development of a local Food Charter/Food Security Policy
iv. Education regarding food (e.g., food skills, food issues, local food) for adults and children
v. Enhancing emergency food services

Action: Councillor McHattie will look into forming a sub group to discuss the establishment of a local coordination network and food terminal.

Action: Notes from the small group sessions will be forwarded to all committee members.
6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Manitoba Food Charter
Vicki passed around a sample bag from the Manitoba Food Charter. Bags were sold as a fundraiser – each bag cost $5.00.

6.2 Re-usable Food Bags
Adam asked committee members if they are involved with any groups that could use re-usable cloth bags. Interest was high.

6.3 Upcoming Events
- From Seed to Scrap, Oct 5, 11:30 – 4:00 – bus trip looking at range of local producers and gardens
- Straight from the Garden, Sep 28, 12:00 – 4:00, Dundurn Castle; exhibit will showcase local growers, local bakers and cheese makers, beer making and garden tours

7. ADJOURNMENT

(Vicki Edwards/Judi Childs)
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

CARRIED