Minutes
COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY STAKEHOLDER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, December 5, 2012, 4:00 p.m.
Room 264, City Hall


Absent with regrets: Susan Harding-Cruz, Chris Krucker, Donna Lee Macdonald, Councillor McHattie, Councillor Johnson, Dr. Ninh Tran

1. CHANGE TO THE AGENDA
   Added 6.3 - Report on chickens in urban areas
   6.4 - Food and Farming Month Budget Request
   6.5 – Next Meeting Date

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
   None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING, November 7, 2012
   (Maciej Kowalski/Dave Carson)

   3.1 Minutes dated Nov. 7, 2012 were approved as circulated.

4. PRESENTATIONS
   Local biologist, Dr. Joe Minor gave a presentation on his efforts to prevent food crops from being grown on known contaminated land, and from entering our food system. His focus has been PFOS contamination near the Hamilton airport, and he highlighted some of the current gaps in policies and regulations with regards to food safety and contaminated soil. [http://www.thehamiltonian.net/2012/04/dr.html](http://www.thehamiltonian.net/2012/04/dr.html)
   Committee members discussed potential contamination in other urban properties and ways to account for this when implementing urban agriculture projects.
   **Action:** Vicki will attach a link in the minutes to a Toronto Public Health presentation given at the 2012 Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors Conference entitled Gardening on Urban Soil, Assessing Risk and Maximizing
5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Food Charter: http://hamiltonfoodcharter.wordpress.com/
Liz and Tina submitted additional signed support for the charter from their workplaces. Currently, we have over 115 individuals and 18 organizations supporting the charter.
The charter will be recommended for endorsement at the Jan. 16, 2013 Board of Health meeting and can form the vision for the proposed City Food Strategy.
Members suggested that the key points to address would include potential actions and measurements or targets for the charter, and offered to speak to the recommendation if needed.

5.2 Education and Outreach - Facebook Page or Facebook Group (Friends of CFSSC) facebook.com/groups/friendsofhamiltonsCFSSC
The goal of the Facebook presence is to increase the profile and visibility of the Community Food Security Stakeholder Committee, and encourage attendance at meetings and events. Currently only members with Facebook profiles who have been given permission by Karen Burson can access the Group content, so it will be reconfigured as a Page for a wider audience. Four to six posts a month are planned, and Sarah has a student who can support adding content to the site. **Action:** CFSSC members are encouraged to submit a 2-3 sentence personal bio to Karen for posting on the site.

5.3 Food Strategy Update – The public health recommendations for a food strategy plan will go to the Board of Health on January 16th. The meeting begins at 1:30 p.m. in the City Hall.

5.4 The Neighbourhood Strategy plans in McQueston and Keith neighbourhoods have identified urban agriculture and community orchards as goals. Sarah Wakefield has offered to have two University of Toronto students review urban agriculture planning (environmental scan and analysis of local regulations) to identify best practice, benefits and concerns. Animals such as chickens are not in the scope of the review, but aquaponics are.
Members suggested additional issues to address – soil quality, air quality, differing ideas of garden aesthetics, noise, roof top gardens, vertical farming, and green walls.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Good to Go Food Box – Karen reported that the $10.00 box of 6-8 items will be available to single Ontario Works (OW) recipients and other interested consumers beginning in January. OW case workers will be recruiting eligible clients to receive the produce.
6.2 Thank you to Sarah Wakefield for her volunteer commitment to the CFSSC for the last five years. Members thanked Sarah for her leadership, commitment and direction with flowers, a card and a cake celebration.


The Planning Committee turned down the idea of allowing urban chickens in Hamilton at this time. Councillor Pasuta encouraged CFSSC members to turn their advocacy efforts to allowing greenhouses on brown field sites, rather than chickens in the city.

6.4 Food and Farming Month Budget Request - Karen is planning a panel discussion event on farmland preservation in February. There is no core funding for the event and she asked the committee for $300 to cover the printing of flyers, publicity and honourariums. **Motion**: Given that the CFSSC does not yet have an approved budget for 2013, we commit to $100 for the printing now, and up to $300 if budget allows. (Dave Carson/Tina Moffat) Passed

6.5 Next Meeting Date – The first Wednesday of January (January 2nd) was considered to be too close to New Year's Day for a regular meeting. **Motion**: That the January CFSSC meeting be cancelled, and the next meeting will be February 6, 2013. (Liz Shaver-Heeney/Sarah Wakefield) Passed

7. **ADJOURNMENT**
   (Sapphire Singh/Tina Moffat)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. **CARRIED**