

Minutes
Mayor's Initiative for Healthy and Sustainable Food Systems
Feb. 28, 2014
10:00 – 11:30, City Hall, Room 209

1. Welcome and Introductions

In attendance: John Nailor, Phyllis Reames; Jeremy Bloom, Hazel Onsrud, Kristen Walker, Megan Quinn, Susan McCloskey, Craig Lapine, Christopher Papagni, Deborah Train, Laura Maylander, Daniel Wallace, Troy Moon, Jeff Edelstein, Sarah Lakeman, Ben Tettlebaum, Molly Sauvain, Ralph Carmona, Jonah Fertig, Mayor Michael Brennan

2. Workplan priorities review: Tim led an itemized review of the Mayor's Food Initiative priorities for 2014, making note of who is leading each. (priorities document attached)

2a. Policy Subcommittee - This first item on the priorities list received immediate action: Ben and Ralph agreed to provide leadership for a Policy subcommittee. Mayor Brennan asked that the committee pay attention State and Federal policy issues relevant to the committee as well as to identify policy and ordinance changes at the City level that the Food Initiative may have interest in. Ben and Ralph will invite Food Initiative membership to convene as the Policy Subcommittee within the next few weeks.

2b. Composting - Jonah asked noted that promotion of composting as absent from the priorities document and that the Food Initiative has taken significant interest in this topic. There were suggestions of incentives that the City might provide for people to compost at their homes and businesses. Craig and Laura announced a composting workshop that Cultivating Community will host on March 11th. Mayor Brennan asked that we find out what would be helpful to boost the efforts of Garbage to Garden.

3. Urban Agriculture Committee - Sheep grazing pilot plan

Jeremy Bloom shared a draft outline of a plan being developed by the Urban Agriculture subcommittee. The subcommittee is currently researching workable options for this pilot. DRAFT outline attached.

6. Gorman Foundation funded Project

Craig provided an update on Gorman Foundation funded project to study why kids are not currently participating in the school lunch program, and what types of messaging or marketing might get them to do so. This is one effort toward the Mayor's Food Initiative goal to increase the amount of locally produced food in Portland's School Food Service Program. Cultivating Community is managing this effort on behalf of the City. A summary of the project will be provided by Cultivating Community soon.

Policy updates

LD - 1353 An Act to Further Reduce Student Hunger. This was a bill meant to require school districts with 50% or more students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch. The Mayor's Food Initiative had supported this bill and provided testimony when originally heard in committee. After passing with strong support it was vetoed by the Governor and very recently that veto was overturned.

LD - 1431 An Act To Support School Nutrition and Expand the Local Foods Economy. Ben Tettlebaum provided an update on this bills status. The bill would provide grants and loans for food hub development and support training for school food service workers. At the time of this meeting the bill had not been sent to the full legislature. But did have a majority of the Ag Committee voting ought to pass. Ben will keep the group updated on the bills status and suggested that if there it does pass in the legislature it may face a veto from the Governor.

Next Meeting Date - Meetings will now take place on the 4th Friday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for March 28th at 10 AM.

Attached:

Priorities for 2014

Sheep Grazing Pilot Outline