

Meeting Minutes

Date/Time/Location	3/21/16: 4pm-6pm: Public Works Building
Facilitator	Mary Lou Kempf
Note Taker	Nicole Hinebaugh
Time Keeper	Melanie Brethaur
Attendees	Jillian Wolf, Brandee Boggs, Darcel Eddins, Mary Ellen Phillips, Steve Duckett, Janna Gower, Melanie Brethaur, Mary Lou Kempf, Nicole Hinebaugh Guest: Carlye Gates

Consent for Last Month's Meeting Minutes	Minutes didn't go out for the last meeting, waiting for minutes to be put into regular template, which was locked at the last meeting. Discussion that minutes don't really need to be transferred over to the template in order to go out. Mary Ellen will send out minutes as is.
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Minutes

Agenda Items	Discussion	Conclusions/Action Items
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Check In 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set next meeting date, and approve agenda. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good for next meeting date. ● Concern about Amber having 25 minutes, and only 5 minutes for the closing. ● Cluster update might not take 15 minutes... ● Nicole would like to rotate note-taking duties with other folks: Jillian and Mary Ellen will help rotate this. ● Would be a good idea to let folks know to slow down, too if necessary. ● Linda couldn't be here to observe this meeting, but will be coming to the next GC meeting to observe, so that she can facilitate in a couple of meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next meeting: 4/25/16 ● Nicole would like to rotate note-taking duties with other folks: Jillian and Mary Ellen will help rotate this. ● Jillian will take notes in April. ● Mary Ellen will take notes in May.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mary Lou will facilitate the next GC meeting (thanks, Mary Lou!)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coordinator Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Not so much to report this time. Last month has been difficult to re-navigate time commitment with current funding shortage. ● Would like to keep on, but asking for patience during this time. ● Other funding to pursue: Mission Hospital and COA Strategic Partnership. ● Meeting with Rachel Nygaard this Wed. with Brandee and Nicole about the Double Bucks program. ● Would like to meet with new BC Commissioners. Brandee knows Jasmine Beach Ferrara, and can possibly introduce. She is really interested in food security. ● At City: a lot of work has gone into creating a food website for the city. Will be a way to keep track of the goals and progress being made, along with input from the citizens. FPC will have a page. This development is taking up a lot of Amber's time, as well as edibles in public spaces. ● Rodderick Simmons has also been attending meetings, and is getting interested, as well as Cathy Ball. ● Amber interested in pursuing a lease for "Adopt-a-spot" for leasing out city-owned land, with recommendations around pollinator plants and edibles. Working on getting a list together of possible edibles to plant. ● Working on putting a panel together for Wed. April 13th: State of Food Policy: hosted by UNCA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Would be good to have some folks there who are POC and experiencing food insecurity themselves and in their community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommendations: Ayanfe Free, Dawn Chavez, Sunil Patel?, Ameena Batada/Amy Lanou, maybe a rep from the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brandee will set up an intro with Jasmine Beach Ferrara.

	<p style="text-align: center;">Fruit and Nut Club, Calvin Allen,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A/B Comm. Garden Network with Bountiful Cities could reserve a spot on the panel, and do a call-out to see if anyone wants to serve on the panel. ○ 15 minutes: 3 five minute slots? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clarifying coordinator hours and roles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mary Ellen is putting in applications right now to take additional part-time jobs, but is putting in about 10 hours/wk for ABFPC. Childcare is really difficult without funding. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This involves a lot of managing interns, answering emails, having meetings, and looking at grants. ○ Having challenge with keeping up with the volume of communications with other groups such as the Fruit and Nut club. ○ A new farmer intern who is interested in putting in about 5-10 hours a week. Meeting with him the week after next, and can send his info on to those who are interested. He usually works on Monday evenings, but he will work to take off for one of the next GC mtgs to come and introduce himself. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ He might be able to take on some of the administrative work if necessary. ○ Mary Ellen still has the password for all the Google Doc management, etc. ○ Nicole and Brandee can take over the supervision responsibilities for one of the interns, Clare, who is working on the Double Bucks program if that's useful. ○ Also, ME doesn't necessary have to be at this upcoming Double Bucks meeting unless she wants to be there. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ME would probably like to be there to discuss funding options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ME will get up with Brandee and Nicole to discuss releasing supervision duty of Clare, the intern.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussion regarding city council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Communications with the city from FPC and the Fruit and Nut Club, etc. has become high-volume, and has been difficult to navigate for the city, and for the FPC. ● FNC determined need to take action on Montford Rec. Ctr after getting conflicting communications from the city about this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jillian began forwarding this info and communications from FNC to Mary Ellen and Amber from the city. Then, Amber halted progress with with Mary Ellen, because Amber was overwhelmed by all the communications. ○ But now, things are resolving: Rodderick is going to tree commission meetings, and more working together is happening now. Amber is working on a website to develop processes for the citizens to interact effectively with the city. ○ Melanie is going to work with Rodderick to plan the sidewalks around Montford Rec Center. ○ Amber is still learning a lot about how tree-planting needs to work in the city. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Melanie making recommendations about getting the recommended tree list online, and in the muni-code. ▪ Need to have two lists: one for consultants, and one for gardeners. ▪ Amber will be meeting with Shannon Tuch and Greenworks to further develop this tree-planting regulations. <p>Mary Ellen in her role of coordinator is trying to coordinate communications and develop relationships and build strategies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gabi was somewhat representing the FPC unnecessarily, and was confusing the process a bit. Mary Ellen is handling this, and trying to wrest communications control about FPC issues back into her/our hands. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● The real issue was that the city was projecting their inadequacies of fulfilling the Food Action Plan onto us, and creating unnecessary confusion around this.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ We need to be supporting Gabi, the Fruit and Nut Club, Bee City, and others in order to push forward food growing and food security. Anyone should be able to talk to the city, but it felt like we were being punished for this.○ Also, we need to know what the actual liabilities are that the city is concerned about so that they can't continue to reference their liability as a reason why they won't move forward.<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Greenworks is going to take out a liability policy for the city planting projects. And is negotiating with the city to oversee some of the Adopt-a-Spot and tree planting and be paid for it by the city.<ul style="list-style-type: none">● But this shouldn't be necessary. The city should carry their own policy. <p>Would like to address the underlying issues the city is perpetuating that the new systems may not necessarily address. Would like to see some formal work with the city to address the underlying issues.</p> <p>We've seen more movement now in the last few months with all of the rabble-rousing, but we need to keep going with the forward momentum. It felt like we were being tasked with calming Gabi down, but that's not our role, and citizens should be bringing light to these issues in the way that Gabi and others are in order to bring movement to the Food Action Plans and other work.</p> <p>It was not only Gabi who got it done, though. There was a lot of work that was done to</p>	
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	<p>build/re-build relationships and lay groundwork to get the work done. Felt like Mary Ellen's work was being minimized, but the FPC did a lot of work to get the city ready to move after the work that Gabi did. Important to recognize the benefits to both types of approaches.</p> <p>Important to remember not to eat each other up over these issues in the future.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Land Use cluster update. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Had two meetings last week at the library: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ one for the FB River West Greenway: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Edible Mile is actually a quarter mile, and there are powerlines that cross the track, so we're dealing with Duke. ▪ We are being given three tracks for fruit trees, pollinator areas, and foot paths. ▪ Now looking at the exact species to plant. Can be involved through online format. ● Soil Testing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UNCA may be able to do it for free <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Becky Doyle used to do this, and she's now at AB-Tech Chem. lab, possibly. ■ David Clarke might be another good contact for this at UNCA. ● Co-op Extension does organic and nutrient tests ● Greenworks should also know this info or be able to help: possibly Eric. <p>Could the edible mile also be a nursery? -This was Randal's idea, and will be talking with city about this.</p> <p>Is all of the quarter mile on Duke's land? If so, they need to be involved immediately.</p>	<p>Mary Ellen will send request to Amber for easement info on the Edible Mile property: the platt, and need to know about the Duke/Isaac Dickson land trade-off.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -There may be an easement around the power lines/poles, which would inhibit the planting area. -Easement may be to middle of the road, but it may be further into the planting territory, though, too. Need to see the easement drawn out. -Easement person for Duke is on the Tree Commission. -Duke also has a community relations person we may want to contact about this, since they've already been in conversation about this for a while. -We need to know what land they've released in the deal with Isaac Dickson. Randal and Eric will be the contact people for this. ● Beaucatcher Greenway meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the trees that are marked to come down are small, diseased, and small in numbers. ○ There was a petition signed for trees not to be cut, but many of the folks who were protesting didn't even live here. Lucy Crowne was supposed to put a website up about this, and MoveOn.org has two competing petitions. City would prefer that folks contact Rodderick with concerns. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Governance Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Need to set up a time for us to address what is remaining to complete in the Governance Doc at every meeting. Difficult to understand what still needs to be done, though. ● Jillian is volunteering to help put together the final version, but needs help with this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Need to be able to project onto a screen for us to finish our edits. ○ We could borrow Tracy's projector. The projector at the Public Works building is unreliable. <p>The committee will review the completed doc to check for consistency and will bring any issues to the GC if necessary.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mary Lou will email Tracy to get the projector and to get a list of what has been done and what still needs to be completed. ● Jillian will lead next piece of the Governance doc at the next Res. Council meeting.

	The W. Ashe Greenway is already being advertised by an incoming developer. Could we ask them to contribute funding for that project?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Update: Amber Weaver 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Let's ask Amber if we could get some of our Food Action Plan stuff up on the Open City Hall online platform to engage the public. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is separate from the website that Amber is working on to engage the public around food-related issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amber didn't come, but we can add her to the next agenda.
Farmer Support Cluster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have put together a conservation tour of various conserved farms with food farm stops, and a history of the community. Putting the signage up now. Terri Wells has been very instrumental to get this going. Working with Kelly Koney to put together a farm policy brief about why farmland is important and should be conserved, and what the precedent is for farmland conservation in other areas. Will need to work on this at the state-policy level in order to be effective. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNCA is committed to supporting these efforts. Leah Matthews is working on this already, and engaging students. Abby Piner at NC State with the State FPC would be a good person to involve in this early on. Jared Cates also might be a good person there to contact. <p>Have struggled a bit with numbers of members, but doing better now, and the Southern Highlands Conservancy is part of it, and would love to see ASAP be part if possible. Carlye would love to help make those connections and offer support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk a bit about how inclusive and broad this council is, and that sometimes we even work at cross-purposes between feeding the hungry and making greater profits for growers/farmers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing Round 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good to differentiate difference between transactional relationship and a transformational relationship. Need to think about how the FPC can utilize this. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could we have a google group for the public to stay abreast of FPC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interesting to learn about what is happening with the greenways, etc., can sometimes feel a little silo-ed in own cluster. ● We're going to need to evolve our focus a bit possibly from the city to the state level, particularly with the state supreme court ruling coming up around the state claiming rights to our water supply. ● Amber will need to come back and talk with us next month. Great to be able to hear from 2 clusters. ● Important to hear from all the clusters. Would like to see more time in the agenda to hear this reporting out. ● Might be a good balance to just have two cluster reports per meeting so that we can go deeply into the info, rather than having shallow reporting back from every cluster. ● A Buncombe County Greenway meeting this Thursday night at the Farmers' Market on Brevard rd 4-7pm. Really important to show up and make a public comment, and can leave quickly after making a public comment, because it will be formally recorded and could make a real impact. ● Good to see everyone again, and this felt very grounded and productive. ● Carlye: thank you for allowing me to be present. Website seems to be a bit outdated, and needs to be updated to engage the general public. Some really old info on there right now. 	<p>work, and any of us could post and forward on, rather than using the GC Google group, which is not public. Who can do it: Mary Ellen could create this, and then the admin could be opened to the GC. GC could then add other folks to the group.</p>
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Next Meeting

Date/Time/Location	
Facilitator	Mary Lou Kempf
Agenda	