**Meeting Minutes**

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| **Date/Time/Location** | 5/23/16 4:00-6:00 PM Public Works Buidling |
| **Facilitator** | Mary Lou Kemph |
| **Note Taker** | Jillian Wolf |
| **Time Keeper** | Melanie Brethauer |
| **Attendees** | Mary Ellen Lough, KC Epstein, Nicole Hinebough, Jon Ammons, Melanie Brethauer, Darcel Eddins, Brandee Boggs, Steve Duckett, Janna, Timothy Sadler |

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| **Consent for Last Month’s Meeting Minutes** |  |

**Minutes**

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| **Agenda Items** | **Discussion** | **Conclusions/Action Items** |
| * Approval of agenda, approval of minutes from last meeting, set next GC meeting date | * Items 3 postponed -- Tracey unavailable. Items4,5 to the end for closed session to cover updates on coordinator position. * Next meeting June 27 * Minutes | * Approved |
| * Funding update and COA | * Applied for joint grant with Bountiful Cities. 10 hours a week to coordinator, 10 hours to community garden support. 10% for adminitstration. Travel. * Nicole and Darcel met with Housing and Community Development Committee for feedback. Mary Ellen met with Gwen Wisler and Gordon Smith. Resistance at first...moved to understanding that city has responsbilities to the FAP. * All applicants will meet at City Hall on June 7th to be available for questions. Decision will be made that day. * $158,000 for overall budget means $22,000 ask has good chance. Doesn’t seem to be a lot of competition. Co-application plus strong plus. Ongoing work also a plujs. Letter of Recommendation from SACEE. Reimbursement based grant with drawdown requests. * Reaction from Darcel. Julie Mayfield understands relationship between city, coordinator and development/implementation of Food Action Plan. |  |
| * Cluster Update -- Water Cluster | * Mary Ellen spoke with Cluster about promoting implementation of an agricultural water rate with COA water system. * Cluster agreed to draft a plan with intern support.Ideal intern project as it’s short term -- research, proposal. Mary Ellen is taking with an interested student (summer project) * City of Clemson example process * Mary Ellen and Amber Weaver discussing the use of a separate spigot for agricultural use...believes city will amenable to irrigation rate = higher water rate, but no sewer charge. Need to define agriculture. Melanie responded that meters are about $2000 each; cost prohibitive. Shiloh Community Garden was $1500 just to install meter (no line). * Looking for solution wherein water rate remains the about the same (no sewer charge). Few presendents for entirely new agricultural rate. * Brandee responded that our water system is currently very complicated, wrapped up with county. City may respond that we need to wait until lawsuit is resolved. * Nicole wondering if we can utilize online city survey process to demonstrate need by home gardners. Mary Ellen responded that proposal will include list of agricultural interests. * Darcel asked about brewers. Mary Ellen reponded that there is an industrial rate. Current rate structure will be included in proposal. * Re: Fluoridation letter, no response from city. Council informal response is that it’s contingent upon water rights. Should we ask for a formal written response. | * Positive reception re: water rates * Approval of ask for formal response to fluoridation letter |
| * Double Bucks Update | * Former intern created a report on how Double Bucks is being used around the country...recommendations on how to proceed in our area. Noah Fulmer with Fair Food Network (created this program and the tool kit)...interested in coming to Asheville to facilitate process of feasibility study for the cost of travel, contingent upon future support of Fair Food Network as the program takes off. * Also working with BeLoved who provided another intern. Meeting May 31 with Buncombe County department heads. If the county is in favor, Noah is ready role. Need USDA funding -- matching grant (including in-kind support). Grant due in the fall of this year. Could begin implementing early next year for availability in the fall of 2017. * FPC would not be backbone organization. Available to advocate and organize. * Program would be run through select vendors; farmers markets, local markets, grocery stores, etc. |  |
| * Visitor Timothy Sadler | * Requesting a letter outlining why he is not allowed to attend GC meetings. Involved with two major food system projects and would like to clear the air so he can play a more active role. * Working to bring industrial hemp to NC. Working with Bioregeon to fund ($200,000) Industrial Hemp Committee. NC has a decordification facility and looking at creating ancient grain processing facility (co-operative) with hemp at the apex. * Working with residents council HACA to develop aquaponics facility to bring a lunch to one school at least one day a week. Worker owned model to generate income. |  |
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| * City budget | * Mary Ellen talked with Amber about the $60,000 said to be available that we were unaware of. Amber requested $30,000 discretionary money for use toward Food Action Plan. She would like to use this money to pay someone to coordinate edibles/pollinators on city property: “adopt a spot” (permaculture plantings). The other $30,000 marked for waste reduction. * Role of FPC. Strategic Partnership fund grant would fund long term relationships with city. * Greenworks handles waste reduction -- Dawn’s understanding is that Greenworks will be getting $60,000. Greenworks wants to build alliances (UAA). Need ongoing clarification with regard to FPC role. * Nicole suggests that Greenworks be a member of FPC. Mary Ellen asked if “advisory council” might serve that purpose. * Additional staffed positions in the city indicates tangible progress. Hopeful that support will also include coordinator as we move forward. * Edible mile is 1000 feet along the river in a Duke easement...no control.Has Duke been brought into the conversation? |  |
| * Coodinator update | * Closed session |  |
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**Next Meeting**

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| **Date/Time/Location** |  |
| **Facilitator** |  |
| **Agenda** |  |