



26 March 2014 Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Present: Michael Simmons
Jennifer Studebaker
Stephanie Solomon
Nikki Wooten
David Parkhurst
Stephen Hale

Absent: Angela Babb
John Galuska
Megan Hutchinson

Guests: none

Meeting convened at 12:00 p.m.

1. Jennifer confirmed a quorum was present.
2. The meeting agenda was approved.
3. February steering committee meeting minutes were accepted by the chair with no additional revisions. Previous revisions were made by Jennifer and shared with the steering committee before this meeting.
4. David's Treasurer Report showed a balance of \$129.96. Recent expenses included \$28 towards the PO Box and the website payment. David has been sharing membership payment information with Angela, so she can update the membership records. Michael will check in with her for a report on renewal rates. Dave will confirm that our taxes are complete, and we have not received any new news on our 501(c)(3) application.
5. The free website hosting option with ServeIT was suggested again by David. Stephanie will see if Mother Hubbard's would be interested in working with us, while Nikki will contact Ashley at United Way. Stephen will also reach out to Matt Hottell.
6. The Spring Quarterly Meeting is scheduled for April 15th at 7pm at Hilltop Gardens. The original speaker Christine Barbour will not be available, so we are seeking an immediate replacement. We planned to issue an invitation to Megan Hutchinson and the LGG. (Note: As of minutes editing, a speaker has not been announced.) We did envision a future panel of a local chef, grocer, and farmer, but this will be saved for the next quarterly, see below.
7. Jennifer shared that IU Food Studies and Purdue's Ingestive Behavior Research Center are planning joint meeting on May 7th in Indy to discuss ways to increase collaboration. Jennifer contacted Rick Wilk to request that the BFPC have a chance to present, which he welcomed and invited us to share a description of our work on the Food Studies List. Jennifer agreed to write this (sent later that day), and Jennifer and Michael are planning on attending the May 7th meeting.

8. Nikki will be attending the university's Food Working Group's Summit on April 8th with IU's Vendors.
9. Advocacy – Stephen reported that things were still up in the air with the food charter in City Council. Dave Rollo had volunteered as sponsor, but since a co-sponsor is needed, Andy Ruff will likely be it. Stephen will arrange a meeting between Dave Rollo and Jacqui Bauer to discuss the charter more.
10. BLLC Lifelong Learning Week is scheduled for the week after Labor Day. Michael would like to see us be part of it, since the theme this year is Urban Agriculture. The program is currently being developed with a deadline of July for submissions. We plan to move our Summer Quarterly Meeting to September, and then offer our Farm, Restaurant, Grocery Panel as a class offering, with the business meeting to follow. The Lifelong Learning Planning Subcommittee will be meeting April 10th at the Monroe County Library Room 214 from 4-5pm, and everyone is welcome to join.
11. Hannah Hunt from the Monroe County Planning Department invited us to participate in their Monroe County Agriculture Policy Survey. We will include this in the newsletter Nikki is preparing and email it to our full mailing list. Stephen will look into responding on behalf of the council.
12. Outreach – Nikki reported that she was preparing a quarterly newsletter. She has developed a list of media contacts for announcing our events and a calendar of tabling opportunities.
13. Assessment – Jennifer did not have anything new to report, since Assessment had yet to meet again, but we will be make preparing the city map for display our main priority. Stephen shared that April Hammerand will be joining the steering committee for our May meeting to discuss the public health aspects of our work.
14. Education – Stephanie reported that the main goal of the Education group this year would be the organizing of our Food Day event. It will be scheduled for October 25th, and part of the events will include our Fall Quarterly meeting. The theme will be local fruit, and activities currently brainstormed include a pie baking contest, a pie baking class, and a fruit tree maintenance workshop. We would like a single location, and Stephanie will check on the availability of Mother Hubbard's, which would have no issues with parking. Following the activities, we would have the food summit and our business meeting. We'd like to reach out to a wider audience, such as 4-H, and we'd like to invite our state representatives to attend. Stephanie will speak with her co-workers, and then we will form a planning committee.
15. Announcements – The next steering committee meeting is scheduled for April 23rd at noon at Sweet Claire.