



23 April 2014 Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Present: Michael Simmons
Jennifer Studebaker
Stephanie Solomon
Nikki Wooten
John Galuska
Megan Hutchinson
Stephen Hale

Absent: Angela Babb
David Parkhurst

Guests: Ashley

Meeting convened at 12:00 p.m.

1. Jennifer confirmed a quorum was present.
2. March steering committee meeting minutes were accepted by the chair with no additional revisions.
3. Assessment Report – The Growers Survey will be closed May 31st. The next working group meeting will be May 3rd at 10am at David Parkhurst's home. The physical map will be prepared for display with the goal of debuting it at Ready, Set, Grow on May 24th. Jennifer will confirm our table and be present at the event. Michael also suggested we schedule ahead a display at the Monroe County Library. John contacted Tom about ImagineBloomington, and he learned the city is open to urban agriculture policy outside the zoning code.
4. Michael announced that one of our proposals to ImagineBloomington was accepted by their steering committee, though it is currently unknown which of the two was selected.
5. Megan shared that there was a new poultry ordinance put in place in Ellettsville, similar to Bloomington's but not allowing the slaughter of animals. It was proposed the BFPC draft a letter explaining the challenges this poses to chicken owners, and additionally, we should consider finding a way to encourage consistency in chicken ordinance policy across the county. The issue was raised in the Bloomington BirdBrains Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/270969692913391/>
6. Monroe County is holding a meeting on May 5th at 6pm to present the new zoning changes as proposed to the zoning commission.
7. Advocacy Report – Stephen had a productive discussion with Dave Rollo. Dave continues to consider us one of his top two priorities, and he will speak with Stacy Jane Rhoads about getting the charter on the city council schedule. Stephen will meet with Dave again on May 9th. Stephen also heard from Rick Dietz of Monroe County, and we have received a letter detailing their relationship to the charter. School corporations keep popping up as a potential issue, and it was suggested that we contact the superintendent

to explain our group's mission and education's role in that. Stephen has a contact in the school system, Dean Walendzak, the Energy & Environmental Specialist.

8. Stephanie shared that Mother Hubbard's is looking to have an education program, and based of a leadership class model in Brooklyn, she would like to organize on in food literacy. This would count as an example of the type of food related education outlined in the charter.
9. Education Report – Stephanie and Megan both attended the Lifelong Learning Week planning meeting. September 8th at 7pm has been agreed upon as our event time, and this will be scheduled with the title Food Chain: A Discussion of Policies Affecting the Bloomington Food System. The next BLLC meeting will be next Monday, April 28.

Stephanie will be holding a BFPC Education Working Group Meeting Wednesday, April 30th 10:30am-11:30am in Mother Hubbard's Cupboard conference room at 1100 W. Allen St. to brainstorm and create a plan of action for our upcoming fall events: our food system panel- Food Chain: A Discussion of Policies Affecting the Bloomington Food System and our Food Day food summit and day of events.

Nikki has created a Google Doc for the Summer Quarterly/Food Panel event, with a list of potential panelists and a detailed time line: [Lifelong Learning Event Planning](#)

Also, there is a planning document started for Food Day as well: [Food Day 2014 Planning](#) October 25th has been set as our event date.

10. Outreach Report – The Spring Newsletter was send to our 100 mailing list recipients, with a 40% open rate. Our Facebook page has continued to increase in “likes,” especially from a recent share by Bfoods. Our flyers will be included in the SPEA Food for Thought event.
11. No news on our IRS application.
12. Angela Babb is now the new membership chair. Jennifer, Nikki, Angela, and Michael will schedule a meeting to discussion the division of labor between their positions.
13. John mentioned that he had received an email about proposals for Themester events being offered until May 1. Michael said he would look into a proposal.
14. Announcements: Megan announced that the LGG is planning an article club, with a likely start in November. Also, Michael shared that Hinkle Garton Farmstead is having Daisy Days celebration this weekend, 4/26-27.