



22 October 2014 Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Present: Michael Simmons
Nikki Wooten
Stephanie Solomon
Jennifer Studebaker
Ryan Conway
David Parkhurst
Megan Hutchinson

Absent: Angela Babb
Stephen Hale

Meeting convened at 12:00 p.m.

1. Jennifer confirmed a quorum was present.
2. September steering committee meeting minutes were accepted by the chair with no additional revisions.
3. Treasurer's Report – Dave reported a balance of \$137.72, with an additional 30 dollars forthcoming from PayPal from memberships. Recent expenditures were \$7.14 for the Indiana Business Entity Report and \$56 for the PO Box rental.
4. Chair Report – Michael shared recent news regarding the Food Charter and Stephen's efforts with the Advocacy Working Group. Dave Rollo has agreed to co-sponsor the charter, and it is expected that we will be able to secure a place on the council's schedule in January. Dave has plans to meet with city department heads in advance of this gain their support as well. In addition, we should focus on requesting letters of support from other community groups. See accompanying spreadsheet for list of sponsors and contact assignments. Megan noted that our charter may contains some points of contention regarding land usage.
5. Outreach Report – The Fall Newsletter has been sent, and Nikki plans on having another in January. Jennifer suggested we could send out donation solicitations with season's greetings to current members in November/December, and she will contact Angela to arrange this.
6. Assessment Report – The City Food System Report outline has been updated, and the group is moving forward in collecting and processing information. Plans include a survey of BIRA members, rates of local food sales in town, and updating the mindmap.
7. Education Report – Pie Fest planning is on track and strong attendance is expected.
8. Fall Quarterly Meeting – Working Group Chairs should select key items from the strategic plan to highlight in recruiting new members.

9. Announcements – Dave suggested that we add a home button to our website navigation menu as well as highlight the About Us page on the main entry page. We will discuss the website and its needed updates further at the Strategic Planning Meeting, scheduled for Dec. 6.
10. Winter Quarterly Meeting – Initial speaker suggestions included Saba Siddiki and colleagues, who will be in attendance at our Strategic Meeting to share about their research with food policy councils. However, Workers' rights was agreed upon as the topic in light of recent events at Bloomingfoods and elsewhere. Ryan has agreed to contact Joe Varga from the Labor Studies department to help lead that discussion. A future Quarterly meeting place would be SCAP's upcoming greenhouse.
11. Continued Announcements
 - a. Dave requested advice on a new dentist and ear, nose and throat doctor. Megan suggested a dentist on Cadillac Boulevard that works through Volunteers in Medicine.
 - b. Ryan suggested that we have a tabling presence at the Wisdom to Survive event from 2-5pm on November 8th at the MCPL Auditorium.
 - c. Megan's Save the Date for the LGG Winter Guild Gathering is February 7th.