

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY LOCAL FOODS POLICY COUNCIL

MINUTES

JUNE 25, 2014, 5:45 P.M.

BROOKENS ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

JENNIFER PUTMAN ROOM

PRESENT: Tod Satterthwaite; Chris Henning; Mel Farrell; Brad Uken; Zach Kennedy; Maya Bauer; Steve Herriott

1. Call to Order—at 5:45pm
2. Additions/Corrections to the Agenda—none
3. Approval of Minutes—minutes of 6/11 so approved
4. Public Participation
5. Old Business
 - a. Rantoul Food Hub report—Micro packing house getting close. Cooler is functional. Stainless steel equipment in place: racks; sinks; tables, etc. After Labor Day a “Meet the Buyers” event is planned, invitees including restaurants, caterers etc. so that they have a heads up that 2015 will have product. Lease contract work via Land of Lincoln staffers being examined. Also, planning on a public event on Sept. 20 with food; local officials and townspeople involved.
 - b. Dining Services/local food report—Mushroom project, teaming with Zach Grant at the Student Farm-using recycled coffee grounds. Perhaps partnering with Columbia St. Roastery for more grounds as growing medium. Investigating the expansion of canning of produce [tomatoes]. We would like to learn more about a blossoming Farmer/Chef group. Have them as guests at a next meeting.
 - c. Discussion of Farmer Survey—next meeting
6. New Business
 - a. Election of Officers—Tod nominates Zach. Zach nominates Brad. Both respectively decline. Zach nominates Becky [not present, but has previously indicated she is not interested]. However, Zach says, yes. Motion formed for

Zach as Chair and Chris as Vice-Chair. Mel will continue as Secretary. Motion passes. Effective July 1.

7. Legislative Update

- a. Brad will bring more Ag Census data to the next meeting for discussion under New Business. E.g., Champaign Co. gained 66,000 acres (???)
- b. Industrial Hemp Act is in committee {HB2668}. Motion made that we send letter of support. Chris indicates some concern that it's not "food", but arguments for economic development [part of our mission] persuades. Motion passes. We will sign at next meeting.
- c. Tod will bring update on Food Modernization and Safety Act.
- d. Maya asked about Agriculture Microloans for small; beginning; family farms [HB5907]. We'll look into it for possible applications.
- e. Farmer's Market Local Regulation Limits bill is also still active. For standards state-wide [HB5657/SB3380]. Support as well.
- f. Farmland Preservation Act [HB1037], even though Champaign Co. isn't eligible, we could still support.

8. Announcements

- a. Sola Gratia will be working with Champaign Summer Camp kids. 3 days altogether: 2 days at Parkland; 1 day at Sola Gratia. Dry run of curriculum on 6/27.
- b. Future of our committee and expansion of it, Brad brings up this issue. Chris feels that we are missing the vendor/distribution piece. Maybe we should invite CIP [John Rollins] or Bill Bagby to a meeting. Chris will reach out to him. Concerns about meeting attendance, though hard to add members. Motion to have 1 meeting/month for next 4 months [July-October], on the 4th Wednesday.

9. Adjourn—at 6:35pm