



Middlesex-London Food Policy Council

Inaugural Council Meeting

November 29th, 2016; 12:00pm – 2:00pm

Location: Middlesex County Building, 399 Ridout Street North London, ON N6A 2P1,
Councillors Lounge -2nd Floor

Facilitator: Ryan Turnbull

Attendance: Iman Algeriany (Brescia Intern), Sarah Campbell, Jean Carson, David Corke ,
Suki Kaur Cosier, Tosha Densky, John Fleming, Cara Finn, Tom Heeman, Laura Husser, Jana
Keller, Ellen Lakusiak, Vicki Luke, Marcel Meyer, Phil Moddle, Teri Morrow, Silke Nebel,
Jane Roy, Christine Scheer, Michael van Holst

Absent: Paul van der Werf

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions Round Table

- What the Food Policy Council (FPC) members are excited about? Summary of answers from all members
 - The diversity the team brings
 - Seeing all sectors working together (each member)
 - Learning and networking
 - To have official institutional support
 - Using policy as a tool to create change (i.e. food policy development)
 - Produce good policy that is flexible and useful across the city
 - Growing ecologically by teaching people about food
 - Working together to support farmers
 - Developing strategic plan to improve the local food environment
 - Business development
 - ‘Stop fighting poverty and start promoting prosperity’
 - ‘Shifting from emergency food system to sustainable foods’
 - Opportunity to provide jobs; helping those who are food insecure
 - Having a farm voice
 - Educating our young people where food comes from
 - Urban regeneration
 - Collaboration, unified-voice

2. Historical Overview

- Created Community Food Assessment (CFA) – to inform decision making
- Work to be done moving forward is up to the team



- Presentation of history (see attached).

* Questions from discussion of CFA

1) For how many years will this CFA be a good representation of Middlesex-London?

- 2-3 years (answer)

2) Will the CFA be used to evaluate our work?

- It would be a good reference to see what we've accomplished

- There will need to be a simplified tool to evaluate everyone's work

(answer)

3) Did you look at soil quality and water systems?

- Water system not in the report (CFA)

- The conservation area does check water every 4 years

- Some information on the soil quality is part of report (answer)

4) Were Local Indigenous Communities represented as part of the CFA process?

- No, this is a definite gap in the CFA process and report

- This gap will need to be addressed going forward (answer)

3. Quick Highlights of the CFA: *(all members are given a print copy of CFA report)*

1. Environmental Scan - gathering data on the food system through existing sources
2. Community Engagement - represented the diversity of the community (i.e. interviews, co-design sessions, surveys)
3. Report written
 - Report includes assets and recommendations/priorities
 - Provides a full picture of the food system; except water

Presentation (see below))

The presentation about the Community Food Assessment can be accessed on dropbox

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/awnfz9eydcybfwb/MLFPC%20-%20Inaugural%20Meeting%20-%20Nov%209%202016%20-%20Presentation%20-%20Final.pdf?dl=0>.

Link to on-line CFA report <https://www.healthunit.com/community-food-assessment>.

4. Purpose of a Food Policy Council

- Key resource: 'Municipal food policy entrepreneurs: A preliminary analysis of how Canadian cities and regional districts are involved in food system change' - June 2013 *(provided in binder)*



- Page 7 (wheel): representing the different stakeholders, actions and departments that may be involved – it is diverse!
- Purpose is to create policy and support existing policies, programs and services

➤ **Overview of the Terms of Reference:**

- Vision, Mission and Values –
- Vision: ‘Local’ – a term that will need to be defined by the food policy council -
- Mission: ‘Policy’ – add *create* policy

- Governance Model
- Executive Committee –will need to be formed in near future.
- Council – the food policy council members
- Action groups – opportunity for the public to participate on issues that the FPC is working on

*Questions -

Should we keep open communication with the original forum attendees and general public to announce FPC membership?

- The Application Review Committee and Original Steering Committee felt that any public event or announcement would be the role of the Council
- MLHU and London Community Foundation – have the mailing lists with contact information (Answer)

How long will EcoEthonomics be working with us?

- Ryan will be supporting us for 1 year; facilitates meetings (Answer)

5.Next Steps

a. Schedule Meetings

- a. DOODLE POLL: everyone please respond within **24 hours**
- b. Location; possibly same location -

b. Forming the Next Agenda

- Part of next meeting: designate time for City of London ‘Urban Agriculture Strategy’ - short presentation
 - To send information (City of London Urban Agriculture terms of reference) ahead of time for council to review and provide feedback– *John Fleming*



- Remainder of meeting: dedicated to discuss Terms of Reference and other administrative items
 - It was suggested that we spend time to get organized before any formal decision-making should occur
 - Discuss edits to Terms of Reference prior to next meeting.
Action/future Agenda Item - *Marcel Meyer, Ellen Lakusiak and Ryan Turnbull*

For discussion at next meetings:

- Terms of Reference Decision Making (p. 5 *Terms of Reference*):
50% + 1 must agree is up for discussion
- How long is the FPC's term?
- Inviting local water experts to represent natural resources - '*without safe, accessible water there is no food*'
- ACE Committee/City request for representation on FPC
- Potentially designated alternatives (Can members send a designated individual (non-voting) if they can't come? Especially if they are from the same area of expertise)
- Conflict of interest declarations
- Consultation of Indigenous nations to address CFA gap
- Discuss process of forming upcoming agenda
- Choose for the action groups (i.e. unsuccessful applicants, interested individuals)
- Terms of Reference and Purpose:
 - Vision: 'Local' – a term to be defined by the food policy council
 - Mission: 'Policy' – add *create* policy
 - Governance Model - executive committee
- The Application Review Committee and Original Steering Committee felt that any public event or announcement would be the role of the Council

Meeting Adjourned at 2:10 pm