

# Middlesex-London Food Policy Council

## Minutes

September 27, 2017

**Time** 2:00 – 4:00 pm  
**Date** September 27, 2017  
**Location** Councilor's Lounge 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Middlesex County Building, 399 Ridout St. N. London  
**Attachments** All documents were sent electronically (Agenda, Newsletter includes link to Urban Agriculture Strategy)

### Mission

The Middlesex London Food Policy Council will:

- Be a forum for discussing local food issues.
- Empower citizens to be involved in food system decisions.
- Foster coordination between sectors in the food system.
- Create, evaluate and influence policy.
- Support programs and services that address local needs.

### Goal

To facilitate and support a safe, healthy and accessible local food system that is socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable

## AGENDA/Minutes

#	Time	Item
	2:00	Chair – Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➢ Approval of previous minutes:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1<sup>st</sup> Silke, 2<sup>nd</sup> David, approved unanimously</li></ul></li><li>➢ Request for additional agenda items<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Silke – student attendance at Council meetings</li><li>○ Tom – food procurement update</li><li>○ Christine – youth involvement interest at Market</li></ul></li></ul>
	2:10	Guest Speaker – Marcia Woods, FreshSpoke Technical difficulties so agenda items not in sequence Freshspoke 1 year anniversary, platform now has 160 accounts. Provides order, payment and delivery of local food. Delivery is key piece of program. Taps into excess food in local area & uses central dispatch system, drives costs down by eliminating middleman. Provides visibility costs. Currently in Simcoe, Grey, north of Toronto, South Central Ontario. Targeting Eastern Ontario and plan to enter US market. Looking to have local food champion program utilizing app to provide info to consumer regarding local food on menu/availability building brand recognition to vendors participating. Currently testing software. “Local Food Ambassador” interested in collaborating with food council. Tom noted caution as this is a venture capital “idea” currently.
	2:30	Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Executive Committee<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Paul: Action Group Charters / Engaging the public<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Healthy Kids Community Challenge (Tosha)</li><li>▪ Urban Agriculture Strategy (Ellen &amp; Jean)</li><li>▪ Annual Meeting: Food Recognition Day (Tosha &amp; Paul)</li><li>▪ Fall Food Fest – deferred (promotional materials / volunteers)</li></ul></li><li>○ Tosha: expense process / Action Group budget requirements</li></ul></li><li>• Council Members<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Vicki – funding</li><li>○ Ellen – RRFSS data requirements</li><li>○ Laura – Urban Ag strategy response (noted in Action Points)</li></ul></li></ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communications</li> </ul>
3:00		Action Group Reports – (update & submit copy to <a href="mailto:info@mlfpc.ca">info@mlfpc.ca</a> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Food Access(ibility)</li> <li>▪ Food Literacy</li> <li>▪ Local Food Distribution/Processing/Procurement – clarification re grant opportunity in minutes</li> <li>▪ Urban Rural and Indigenous Connection</li> </ul>
3:50		News & Updates (see September Newsletter)
4:00		Meeting adjourned 4:00 pm Next meeting October 25

Participants Invited	Attended	Apologies	Participants Invited	Attended	Apologies
Sarah Campbell		09.27.17	Jean Carson	x	
Suki Kaur Cosier	x		David Corke	x	
Cara Finn	x		Tosha Densky	x	
Tom Heeman	x		John Fleming	Greg	
Jana Keller	x		Laura Husser	x	
Vicki Luke	x		Ellen Lakusiak	x	
Phil Moddle		09.26.17	Marcel Meyer	x	
Silke Nebel	x		Teri Morrow		x
Christine Scheer	x		Paul Shand	x	
Paul van der Werf			Michael van Holst		09.20.17

## ACTION POINTS

All action points, when closed, will be kept in the next set of minutes and then removed. The numbering system will remain as the original number given. Any previous action point can be found in the previous minutes.

#	Action Items	Expected Completion	Owner	Status
<b>Executive</b>				
26	Key to Council success is Action Groups that are engaged and doing things. Review Urban AG Strategy and incorporate a minimum of 1 “actionable” item in Charter. We will begin awareness campaign and invite public participation. Important that Charters “speak” to priorities we have identified. Funding can be accessed with projects that are clearly articulated.	Immediate	Paul	All Action Groups to review and update Charters so they can be posted on website and used as talking points at public events. Jean happy to provide feedback on Charters prior to posting.
	Philosophy of Food course at UWO has several students interested in attending Council meeting.	Upcoming meeting dates	Silke	Students will be assisting with Action Group research and will be invited to attend upcoming meeting
	Discussion regarding inviting guests / public participation at Council meetings. All meetings will be open; although it is recommended groups/individuals notify <a href="mailto:info@mlfpc.ca">info@mlfpc.ca</a> in advance to ensure room capacity is appropriate. Guests will not have voting privileges and may be asked to provide background as to why they are		All	Identify guests prior to meeting so they can be introduced / added to agenda time

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	attending/area of interest			
	Budget and funding discussion – all monetary requirements to be identified and presented for approval. The funds require invoice or cheque requisition be provided to Tosha for review/approval/reimbursement	Immediate	Tosha	All funding to be identified and approved at Council meetings going forward. Finance member of Executive to be contact for all funding requests
	Healthy Kids Community Challenge – opportunity to facilitate multi organization collaboration & will be incorporated into awareness opportunities for Council. There is funding available to support this request and link to Action Groups.	Event prior to December 31	Tosha	Coordinate meeting with Will Roberts, City of London, CYN, United Wa partners to discuss common goals and develop ideas
	Awareness & partnering opportunity with City of London related to Urban AGR strategy. Goal to launch Urban AG strategy and provide awareness of MLFPC with a joint event. Investigating further partnership with Western Fair This will acknowledge community role, populate Action Groups and be a co event between the partners. Issues identified as “watch outs” include who/when/what, livestock, balance of rural & urban needs. Education and Partnerships key		Ellen / Jean	Action Groups to identify what items can be incorporated into Charter to allow for further planning. Focus on food as human right / sovereignty. Grow /procure/ education / partnerships

#### **Council Member(s)**

	Funding report circulated at meeting (and will be posted on website) with funding opportunities. Ensure any funding sources are provided to Vicky so she can update report. Recommend that when Action Groups are planning they reference parameters associated with funding. Information regarding workshop panel associated with funding is being offered (noted in Newsletter) by Pillar Non Profit Network	Ongoing	Vicky	Will provide support / review funding proposals provide ongoing updates at Council meetings regarding funding opportunities
27	Feast Ontario – Food & Rural Affairs, Food Tourism Alliance. Culinary tourism strategy equivalent to Foodland Ontario. Certification program at provincial level. 25% total ingredients product of Ontario. \$350.00 fee to audit, goal to grow local food consumption. Request to MLFPC to strengthen awareness via website and social media. London Tourism Alliance would partner with us / soft launch even.	October 25 November 29	Tom	Contact them to do 15 minute presentation to Council if they are interested
28	Covent Garden farm vendors interested in getting involved with food policy council. Recommend inviting them to future meeting. Paul also suggested we will need public participation on our Action Groups.	October 25 November 29	Christine	Extend invitation and request notification of who will attend (meeting room accommodations to be taken into consideration)

#### **Committee: Communication (Jean, Sarah, Marcel, Cara, Ellen, Paul)**

	Introduction of students attending meeting included Katey who is assisting Ellen at health unit and Rayna Middlesex County student placement who developed MLFPC website on behalf of Communication Committee.	Immediate	Ellen	Investigating ongoing student placements to assist with communications
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21	London Chamber of Commerce – AG / Networking event coming up Nov 23rd at Western Fair AGR Plex (food cook off)	November 23	Cara / Council volunteers	Registration to be completed (finance process now in place) Volunteers will be required
	Communication tools now available: Email for <a href="mailto:info@mlfpc.ca">info@mlfpc.ca</a> and <a href="mailto:executive@mlfpc.ca">executive@mlfpc.ca</a> active Website developed and content being added <a href="http://www.mlfpc.ca">www.mlfpc.ca</a> Social media includes facebook, Instagram and twitter. Katey will be working on this & updating website during her placement.	Immediate	Council	Council to review / like / provide content. Biographies need to be resubmitted to Ellen
	Urban Agriculture Strategy will be presented for approval at London City Council meeting. MLFPC has been invited to partner an event to raise awareness for both the strategy and our Council. Investigating opportunity to also host along with Western Fair.	2017	Ellen / Jean	Leif & Greg contacting Western Fair. Council members to finalize Charters which will be used in planning MLFPC goals for participation
	Terms of Reference note annual meeting for public required. Opportunity to have an interactive “event” and provide report at that time. Tosha initiating conversations with other groups and further planning to determine what is feasible	TBD	Communication Committee / Tosha	See Executive “Healthy Kids” & Accessibility Action Group update

### Committee: Urban Agriculture (Marcel, Laura)

18	MLFPC Committee provided following response, “The MLFPC Urban Agriculture Committee reviewed and support the City of London’s updated Draft Urban Agriculture Strategy. We recommend that the city engage active Urban Agriculture community members in setting specific goals and action plans using examples from Ontario as well as jurisdictions within and outside of Canada. We also encourage the city to ensure that proposed demonstration projects are evaluated before, during and after, for a systematic collection of relevant qualitative and quantitative data.”	September	Urban AG: Marcel / Laura	Response from committee noted
	Robust discussion regarding potential hot buttons associated with Urban AGR Strategy. There is some hesitation from rural areas of the impact on business. Tosha noted food is a human right / food sovereignty is the goal. There is an opportunity to grow / procure / educate / facilitate noting urban agriculture is not on the same scale as agricultural business.			Ensure planning of event is mindful of partnerships within our Rural / Urban & Indigenous communities

### Action Group(s)

12	Ellen distributed survey template, noting data 2015 & 2016 data available from Health Unit regarding Local Food Procurement: Public Perceptions RRFSS report will be generated (previously discussed by Ellen) and provided to Council.	Update at next meeting	Ellen	Presentation will be made at future meeting
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<b>Action Group – Food Accessibility (Tosha, Michael, Suki)</b>				
	Healthy Kids Community Challenge will be the starting point to initiate conversations within realm of food security / include other organizations (London For All / City of London / Middlesex). Look for synergy between sectors (government, business, food purveyors. Working towards food recognition day (seeking innovative groups) along the lines of the SCOR event.	November	Tosha to lead	Opportunities for other Action groups to also participate
	School gardens focus of this Action Group and will spearhead connection to schools. Goal would be to have a garden at every school! .Council identified existing groups that may be good partners: Agrascape / 6 by 16 program, Thames Valley School Board as pressure group, Sustain Ontario, Grow Quick Learn (Philosophy Students), Indigenous aspects to be incorporated			This Action Group will provide co-ordination and facilitate partnerships with existing groups
<b>Action Group – Food Literacy (Christine, David)</b>				
	Calendar copy circulated & goes to print next week. Discussion regarding hosting event to educate / communicate / increase literacy. Looking to engage school boards in a positive way. (it was noted that Fanshawe is offering an AGR course may be good contact)			Opportunity to work in conjunction with other Action Groups
<b>Action Group – Food Distribution (Silke, Tom)</b>				
	Students from UWO Philosophy of Food reviewing research. Wanting to identify food policies within City & Health Unit. Potentially hosting event to bring people together for discussion, noting local food act has 20% local requirement. Tom / Vicky noted this is not an obligation, rather “encouraged”.			
<b>Action Group – Urban/Rural/Indigenous (Laura, Teri, Paul)</b>				
	Looking at existing gardens & local foodscaping with goal of incorporating business.			More synergies identified for collaboration between Action Groups
<b>New / Updates</b>				
	Recent review of the funding for Ellen’s role identified the opportunity to contact Health Unit and provide letter of recognition / appreciation for this key role. The MLFPC is still in its infancy and the knowledge and support provided by Ellen will be crucial in building a strong food policy council in London Middlesex.	Immediate	Paul / Marcel	Letter to be sent to health unit acknowledging importance of Ellen’s role
	Western Food Symposium – October 18 <sup>th</sup>			Tosha advised
	Harvest – Leading Food Entrepreneur Summit			Silke registered
	Local Food Ambassador – Komoka			Cara has details

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	November 23 <sup>rd</sup> – AGRI NET awareness event. This is large networking opportunity. Recommend Council participation & support at our booth needed!			Contact Jean or Ellen or <a href="mailto:info@mlfpc.ca">info@mlfpc.ca</a> if you are available
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