

MINUTES
LINN COUNTY FOOD SYSTEMS COUNCIL
Thursday, January 27, 2022

The Linn County Food Systems Council meeting was called to order at 12:06 P.M. in conference room 3A/3B at the Jean Oxley Public Service Center, 935 2nd St. SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

PRESENT: Laura Krouse, Abbe Hills Farm
Stephanie Schrader, City of CR Community Services Coordinator
Carter Oswood, Feed Iowa First
Kim Guardado, HACAP
Mary Griffin, Horizons
August Stolba, Prairiewood Franciscan Spirituality Center

ABSENT: Jason Snell, Sunrise Movement
Scott Koepke, Consultant
Tamara Marcus, LC BOS Sustainability Manager
Sandy Rosenberger, ISU Extension

OTHERS

PRESENT: Ilsa Dewald, Johnson County

STAFF: Mike Tertinger, Linn County Planning and Development, Staff
Desire Irakoze, Linn County Planning and Development, Staff
Ryan Sampica, Recording Secretary

Roll Call

Members present and absent shown above.

Election of Officers

Stolba motioned to delay the election of officers until the February meeting when we will have more of the Council in attendance and hopefully a full Council. Oswood seconded and the motion carried with all members present voting Aye.

Approval of Minutes

Monthly Budget Report

Tertinger said the remaining account balance as of the calendar year-end is \$3,487.00

Stolba spoke to what has been done in the past and that starting last year and moving forward the Council is going to try to come up with creative ideas to use the budget money since it doesn't roll over from year to year.

ARPA Update

No update as of today. The Council is still waiting for a decision from the Board of Supervisors on their request. There is hope that the decision will come down in late February to early March.

Oswood asked how the pooled ARPA money between the County and the City gets doled out. Is it all at the same time or at different times?

Dewald spoke to how Johnson County dealt with ARPA funds and also gave an update on the last Johnson County FSC Meeting

There was general discussion regarding doing a Food Policy Focus group at the next Food Systems Council Meeting and the logistics of it.

2022 Goals

Stolba wants to figure out how to get large-scale soy/corn farmers to diversify their crops into other products and do trials

Krouse agreed with Stolba and wants to figure out how to building infrastructure to grow stuff and sell stuff

Griffin wants to figure out way to get fresh produce to the elderly (getting volunteers)

Oswood wants to figure out how to get land access for farmers, and also capital for infrastructure and to become more visible and heard

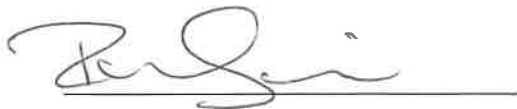
Guardado agrees with Griffin above (instead of just elderly, for all)

Schrader wants to move forward always keeping in mind the 2020 Linn County Food Systems Assessment recently completed.

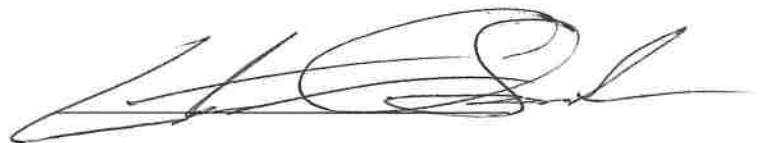
Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 1:31 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,



Ryan Sampica, Recording Secretary



Carter Oswood, Chair