

MINUTES
LINN COUNTY FOOD SYSTEMS COUNCIL
Thursday, May 26, 2022

The Linn County Food Systems Council meeting was called to order at 12:00 P.M. in conference room 3A/3B at the Jean Oxley Public Service Center, 935 2nd St. SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

PRESENT: Sarah Blais, NewBo City Market
Sandy Rosenberger, ISU Extension
Kim Guardado, HACAP
Melissa Wahl, Horizons
Emmaly Renshaw, Feed Iowa First
August Stolba, Prairiewood Franciscan Spirituality Center
Amy Hockett, Linn County Public Health
Emily Qual, Cobble Hill & Caucho Director of Hospitality & Operations

ABSENT: Laura Krouse, Abbe Hills Farm
Stephanie Schrader, City of CR Community Services Coordinator
Laura Seyfer, Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance
Charlie Nichols, Director Linn County Planning and Development
Ilsa Dewald, City of Iowa City

OTHERS

PRESENT: Tamara Marcus, LC BOS Sustainability Manager

STAFF: Mike Tertinger, Senior Planner
Desire Irakoze, Planner I

Election of Officers

Qual nominates Stolba as Chair for 2022. All voted in favor

Stolba nominates Renshaw as Vice-Chair for 2022. All voted in favor

Stolba nominates Guardado as Secretary for 2022. All voted in favor

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved as submitted with a couple of minor changes to change ARAP to ARPA and he to she when speaking of Guardado.

Rosenberger motioned to approve minutes and Renshaw seconded.

Monthly Budget Report

Tertinger said the remaining account balance as of now is \$3,247.

The budget will reset to \$4000 as of July 1st.

Guardado and Tertinger summarize and review for the new members what the Council did with the budget last year regarding the CSA match.

There was general discussion about having Horizons provide boxed lunches for the Council for the meeting in June. All members present were in favor of it and Wahl said she would send out an email with the different options.

Stolba motioned to spend the money for the boxed lunches for June only and Guardado seconded.

There was general discussion on how the Council could spend the remaining \$3000. Some ideas included getting Ice Packets for Horizons, HACAP food productions and Iowa Feed orchards. There was also discussion of whether the remaining money should be spent in one lump sum to one entity or divided up between 3 different entities. Tertinger then reviewed the process it takes to write up a contract and to do 3 different times could be time consuming.

Stolba suggested that they spend the money on edible perennials through Feed Iowa First and the Council agreed.

Guardado motioned to spend the \$3000 to Feed Iowa First for the purchase of edible perennials. Rosenberger seconded. All Ayes except for Renshaw who abstained.

There was discussion on having more brick and mortar events in the next fiscal year (July 2022 – June 2023).

FARE Grant Discussion

General discussion regarding getting a Grant Program Officer regarding who can or can't be, should or shouldn't do it and how to pay for them. There was talk on getting a job description written up and making it known for people to apply for the position.

Regarding the application there was talk about having it three different formats: paper, video, audio. There was discussion on the software needs in that regard and where this would all be housed as the County doesn't want to make one and put it on the website.

Stolba moves into the scoring matrix portion of the and reviews the Beta Version (draft version) and has the Council read through and give feedback. After some thoughtful and good

discussion back and forth regarding the matrix Stolba requests that everyone review the matrix between now and the next meeting and give some good feedback.


Renshaw spoke to the reporting side of things and there was general discussion regarding should there be a small ask, medium ask, large ask and possibly a "special projects" ask. Renshaw then review how pools should be split, is there a max ask, requirements for the buy and where they can buy from.

There was also discussion regarding how to distribute funds and possible caps to yearly output by the Council.

There was a question on when and how do we promote the release of the application. Tertinger mentioned that a general database/email list could be created for everyone in the sphere of the Council and that a mass email could be sent out that the application is now live and ready to go.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 1:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Ryan Sampica, Recording Secretary

Approved,



August Stolba, Chair