

MINUTES
LINN COUNTY FOOD SYSTEMS COUNCIL
Thursday, June 1, 2023

The Linn County Food Systems Council meeting was started at 3 pm in conference room 234 at the Harris Linn County Public Health Building, 1020 6th St SE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

PRESENT: August Stolba, Prairiewood Franciscan Spirituality Center
Emmaly Renshaw, Feed Iowa First
Jacqueline Montoya, LCPH
Stephanie Schrader, City of Cedar Rapids Community Services Coordinator
Hailee Sandberg, ISU Extension

ABSENT: Melissa Wahl, Horizons
Kim Guardado, HACAP
Laura Seyfer- Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance
Emily Qual, Cobble Hill
Laura Krouse, Abbe Farm
Matthew McGrane, NewBo City Market

OTHERS

PRESENT: Tam Marcus

STAFF: Mike Tertinger, Senior Planner
Amy Speed, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes were not approved as the group did not meet quorum.

Budget:

Nothing discussed.

FARE Grant:

a. Review survey of Round 1 recipients (5 minutes): 8 responses- Renshaw stated some that didn't get funded or said it was too broad. Will be more explicit in this round regarding things including budget. Most recipients said it was easy and having the application online made it easy. Positive feedback that it saves and doesn't erase. Good feedback on Sarah Blais involvement with applications.

b. Reformatted questions – review and approve (15 minutes)-Renshaw is inputting the questions into Good Sense. Discussion about demographics and population- do we need it? Stolba discussed a drop-down box for Linn County (geographic area served) – add or subtract to the drop down. Schrader wanted to add as primary geographic area served. Demographics of population served- Stolba do they work with a specific population? Renshaw- is this data that we need? Sandberg- need to be intentional for serving the populations. Renshaw- do we put it in the essay format? Will mull it over at next meeting as a group.

What does your project focus on? Category of funding? Discussion on what to add/subtract. Don't score category or focus.

Need to bring Blais back in for a discussion of what the current project statuses are.

Sandberg wants to know our expectations- same grant for those that didn't receive? Stolba says should talk to Blais. Renshaw says we need a new app for every ask. Sandberg & Renshaw- mandatory that they talk with Blais first if they asked before (not a new ask). Stolba mentioned that is why we need to reconnect with Blais.

Much discussion on questions and how they are phrased and what the sides notes are going to say. Discussion on what happens if they try to sell things that were awarded to them. Write in a 2 year clause and the county will handle after that (expected use and purpose)

c. Confirm marketing avenues (10 minutes):

Need to talk to Qual and Guardado- as soon as possible.

- d. Create team to revise rubric to match questions (5 minutes): do next

July 10 launch-Closing Press release a few days ahead. Marcus to contact Brittany Miller at the Gazette to do a release.

Come to Table Summit:

- a. Committee Update: Marcus-had 2 meetings with steering committee to decide on dates of Oct. 27 or Nov 10.- will send survey to committee to see what dates works best. Marcus can't do Nov. 10. At Linn Regional Building- Kirkwood Center in Hiawatha-space is free- Decided on Oct. 27 to be the day- max 100 people- 3 breakout rooms, 2 sessions each (tbd). Schedule- 8-12:30- breaks will have local snacks from local producers-theme-will be on the survey to vote- condition of the state for keynote- Narrowed down themes: producers & procurers- making the connection, infrastructure and processing and policy and community development.

After conversation- less breakout sessions and more facilitated breakout groups. Speakers invited no later than the end of June. Want to have innovative yet small and manageable and not duplicating what is already out there. \$25 fee to include snacks and printing and can waive if a scholarship option. \$50 for speakers unless they have set fees (discussion on how to pay the speakers). Stolba wants to promote the grant as a form of marketing.

FSC Recruitment:

Renshaw and Montoya have reached out to new people. Any requirements to be on the committee? At large positions open as well (they do vote).

Open Discussion:

None

Adjournment - The discussion was halted at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Speed, Recording Secretary

Approved,



August Stolba, Chair

Emmalyn RENSHAW, VC