

Douglas County Food Policy Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, November 6, 2023  
6:30pm to 8:30pm  
1006 New Hampshire,  
Lawrence and [Zoom](#)



**In Attendance:** Emily Lysen, Cody Haynes, Suzy Mooney, Tyler Lindquist, Erin Melton, Ashley Hornberger, Margit Kaltenecker, Ben Sikes, Crystal Bradshaw-Gonzalez, Suzy Mooney, Natalya Lowther.

**Absent:** Cheryl Hunsinger, Mackie Moore, Enrique Ortiz, Maggie Bornholdt

**Guests:** Ashton Martin, Brianna Baca, Mary Miller, Karen Willey, Nancy Thelman, Jim Carpenter, Scott Thelman, Tom Buller, Michael Almon, Paultette Windland, Bonney Little, Dorance Little. Additionally, four virtual guests on Zoom did not provide a name.

**Staff:** Connie Fiorella Fitzpatrick

I. **Administrative Items:** 6:30-6:50pm

- Determine quorum of members, agenda approval
- Motion to approve the agenda by Dietrich. Second Margit with spelling corrections to Mackie Moore and Ashton Martin's names. All in favor. Motion passed.*

II. **Public Comment:** up to 3 minutes per person, please

*Welcome to the monthly business meeting of the Food Policy Council. Please use the Public Comment period to share your food system interests, questions, and work with the Council. Due to limited meeting time, please refrain from interjecting comment or questions during the business portions of the meeting. However, Council leadership or members will be happy to continue discussion with you after the meeting: [dcfpc@douglascountyks.org](mailto:dcfpc@douglascountyks.org).*

III. **2024 Douglas County Legislative Statement Recommendations:** 6:50-7:10pm

- DCFPC Leadership recommendations for the 2024 Douglas County Legislative Statement. Presentation by DCFPC Chairs and Leadership.
  - i. Recommendation for DCFPC to approve presented items "2024 Douglas County Legislative Statement DCFPC Recommendations" (attached) and for staff liaison to submit the recommendation to Douglas County Administration.
  - ii. *Motion to amend the Agrivoltaics bullet point to "We support state-level agrivoltaics policy recommendations, similar to policies developed in Douglas County" by Tyler. Second Natalya. Majority in favor. Erin abstained. Margit abstained. Motion passed.*
    - 1. Agrivoltaics. We support state-level agrivoltaics policy recommendations, similar to policies developed in Douglas County.
  - iii. *Motion to add a bullet point "We support the preservation of Class 1 and Class 2 and other highly productive soils through the state for agricultural use." by Tyler. Second Natalya. Dietrich no, Erin abstained. Majority in favor. Motion passed.*
    - 1. We support the preservation of Class 1 and Class 2 and other highly productive soils through the state for agricultural use.
  - iv. *Motion to add a bullet point including "We support policies that support new farmers to learn*

*about or help existing farmers convert to more sustainable agricultural systems.” by Ben. Second Tyler. Erin abstained. Motion passed.*

1. We support policies that support new farmers to learn about or help existing farmers convert to more sustainable agricultural systems.

**IV. Learning Session: Solar Regulations and the Savion Proposal: 7:10-8:40pm**

- Question and answer on planning processes with Mary Miller, AICP, Planner II, Planning & Development Services | City of Lawrence | Douglas County, KS.
- Presentation by Ashton Martin Senior Permitting & Environmental Manager at Savion, renewable energy company.
  - i. Documents available on the [Douglas County DCFPC Website](#).
  - ii. Question and answer post presentation with Savion and DCFPC membership.
- *DCFPC to form a working group tasked with drafting a memo, present a draft to the DCFPC full council meeting on November 20th for a vote. Memo be sent to the Planning Committee by December 4th. The memo will be aligned with the Douglas County Food System Plan focused on soil, water, and agriculture.*
  - i. Working group will be composed of DCFPC Chairs and Leadership including: Cody Haynes, Emily Lysen, Mackie Moore, Ashley Hornberger, Erin Melton, Natalya Lowther, Tyler Lindquist, and Ben Sikes. Douglas County staff liaison will support the organization of the working group.
  - ii. Working group will meet on Thursday November 9th at 9:00am to begin discussion and drafting the memo.
  - iii. Memo will require unanimous consent from DCFPC members of the working group before submitting to the Planning Committee. Memo will be signed by DCFPC Chair, Emily Lysen upon unanimous consent.
  - iv. Memo will be presented to the DCFPC full council for a vote on November 20th.
  - v. Memo to be submitted to the Planning Committee by the week of Monday December 4, 2023.

**V. Adjourn**

**Next Meeting: November 20th, 2023 - In person location 1006 New Hampshire St and Zoom @ 6:30pm**