



## **Douglas County Food Policy Council**

**Monday, February 24, 2025 5:30PM**

Virtual and In-Person at Douglas County Sustainability Office, 1006 New Hampshire

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Shelby Ostrom, Tyler Lindquist, Ben Sikes, Quinlan Carttar, Emily Lysen, Mackie Moore, Dietrich Earnhart

**Members Absent:** Suzy Mooney, Lee Meisel, Natalya Lowther

**Staff:** Connie Fitzpatrick, Kim Criner Ritchie, Star Her Many Horses, Grant Misse

**Community Members:** Olivia Ellett, Ruaa Hassaballa, Elizabeth Burger, Terra Her Many Horses, Catrina Her Many Horses, Jacqueline Smith

#### **A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. **ACTION: Consider Agenda Approval**

- *A motion was made by Dietrich Earnhart and seconded by Ben Sikes to approve the agenda. With the addition of a letter of support request from Agrarian Future Alliance to be added at the end of the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.*

#### **B. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **ACTION: Consider Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

- *A motion was made by Ben Sikes and seconded by Dietrich Earnhart to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.*

2. **2025 Kansas Food Action Network Advocacy Day Update**

- This event took place on February 11th at the Topeka Capitol.
- Douglas County participants met with Senator Nancy Fransico, Representative Brooklynne Mosley, and Representative Suzanne Wikle to share about their food systems work in our County including advancing Healthy School Meals For All and other priorities of the Douglas County Health Improvement Plan and those of USD497.
- Douglas County Attendance: Quinlan Carttar - DCFPC - HRFBC, Pantaleon Florez III - USD497, Julie Henry - USD497, Joshua Winscott - USD497, and Connie Fiorella Fitzpatrick - Douglas County.

## C. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

### 1. Indigenous Food Systems Working Group

- Multispective Health Research & Consulting LLC, Ruaa Hassaballa. Consultant hired as Lead Plan Developer for the Indigenous Food Systems Study and Action Plan. This work was inquired by DCFPC and led by the DCFPC Indigenous Food Systems working group.
  - i. Informational presentation. No action required.
- Star Her Many Horses, Douglas County Food Systems Intern. Updates and insights on study focused on Indigenous Food Systems initiatives. Building nationwide relationships to expand our local resilience.
  - i. Informational presentation. No action required.

### 2. K-State Research & Extension Local Food Fellows Program

- Grans Misse, Douglas County Sustainability Office
- Olivia Ellett, Douglas County K-state Research and Extension Office
  - i. Informational presentation. No action required.

### 3. Food and Farm Working Group

- Lawrence Farmers Market permanent location study update.
  - i. Emily Lysen, Lawrence Farmers Market (LFM) Director and DCFPC member, provided an update on the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) application submitted last week to the City of Lawrence. The application includes funding for both the feasibility study and implementation of the permanent market location, totaling nearly \$6 million. This proposal covers site location analysis, community outreach, design, and construction costs.

In addition to the CIP application, LFM is seeking alternative funding sources and has already secured financial commitments from:

- \$20,000 – Lawrence Parks and Recreation
- \$5,625 – Douglas County Sustainability Office

LFM still needs \$12,000 to fully fund the feasibility study and is working with Eileen Horn to apply for a Natural and Cultural Heritage Grant.

- ii. Informational presentation. No action required.

### 4. Economic Development Working Group

- Consider approval for the DCFPC Economic Development Working Group to develop the Mobile Food Vendors 101 informational sheet. This resource will provide guidance on safety and regulatory requirements for mobile food vendors operating in Douglas County.
- Background: This initiative builds on the "Mobile Food Vending Permitting and Policies in Douglas County, KS" study (2025), developed by the DCFPC Economic Development

Working Group with support from the Douglas County Sustainability Office and The University of Kansas – Health, Sport, and Exercise Sciences.

- i. **ACTION:** Consider approval for the DCFPC Economic Development Working Group to develop the Mobile Food Vendors 101 informational sheet.
  - *Motion by Ben Sikes to approve for the DCFPC Economic Development Working Group to develop the Mobile Food Vendors 101 informational sheet. Second by Dietrich Earnhart. All in favor. Motion passes.*

#### 5. Request for a letter of support by Agrarian Future Alliance

- The Agrarian Future Alliance (AFA), in partnership with the Coalition for Green Capital, is applying for \$250,000 from the Municipal Investment Fund to develop an Agrivoltaics Plan for Douglas County. This plan will integrate food systems, land access, and solar energy, with collaboration from the Douglas County Food Policy Council (DCFPC). Once completed, the plan will be used to apply for a \$2 million implementation grant to fund agrivoltaic projects in the county.
  - i. **ACTION:** Consider approving AFA’s requests for a letter of support from DCFPC for this grant application.
  - ii. *Motion by Dietrich Earnhart, I move that the Douglas County Food Policy Council serves as a partner for Agrarian Future Alliance so they can “put their name in the hat” conditional upon this request access a different funding mechanism than the one being requested already by Douglas County Sustainability Office and Douglas County Food Policy Council having the authority to serve as a “municipal partner”. Second by Ben Sikes.. Emily Lysen abstained, Shelby Ostrom abstained, Quinlan Carttar abstained. Mackie Moore votes yes, Tyler Lindquist votes yes. Motion passes.*
    - Note: After follow-up communications between Agrarian Future Alliance, Douglas County, and DCFPC Chair Tyler Lindquist – it was concluded that this request from Agrarian Future Alliance was for the same grant RFP that the Douglas County Sustainability Office is applying for, which required a municipality to be the lead applicant.

#### E. NEXT MEETING

- Date: Monday, April 21, 2025
- Time: 6:30–8:30 PM
- Location: Virtual and In-Person location TBD
- **NO MARCH MEETING**

Meeting Adjourned.