

**Johnson County Food Policy Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, June 17, 2019**  
**Johnson County Administration Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Betty Sass Conference Room**  
**913 S. Dubuque Street, Iowa City, IA 52240**  
**6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Attending Appointed Members:** Giselle Bruskewitz, Jessica Burttt Fogarty, Kristy Walker, Liz Maas, Michael Wilson, Michelle Kenyon, Ron Bohnenkamp, Stephen Trefz

**Attending Ex-Officio Members:** Ilsa DeWald

**Guests:** Jake Kundert

1. Call to order 6:05 PM
2. Introductions
3. Approve May 2019 minutes
  - a. Jessica BF moved, Giselle B seconded, all approved
4. General updates and discussion from Ilsa DeWald, Local Foods Coordinator (6:05 PM)
  - a. Project partnership with Coralville and North Liberty Community Pantries and Upstream Clinic using locally grown food to meet community needs
    - i. Applying for MidWestOne \$50,000.00 grant
    - ii. Majority of funds to purchase food thru CSA. Will work w/ Up Stream Clinic for on-site health screenings at food pantries
  - b. Field to Family Food Hub receives funding from City of Iowa City
  - c. Iowa Valley RC&D seeking grant funding for community food system assessment.
    - i. Exciting to get a larger database and how this can be made consistent and uniform
    - ii. Jake Kundert will seek out recommendations from the Food Policy Council and attend meetings.
    - iii. Announced in late August to start 1 October to begin the planning
  - d. Appointments to Food Policy Council, 3 reappointed and 1 new appointment
    - i. Giselle Bruskewitz, Stephen Trefz, Dean Colony, and Shawn Meany
    - ii. Discussion about creating member exit interview as a best practice
  - e. Board of Supervisors reviewing contracts for Johnson County Historic Poor Farm
    - i. Astig Planning and Iowa Valley RC&D submitted contract proposals
  - f. Farm Incubator research with Astig Planning
    - i. Ilsa shared a summary of her road trip to Women's Environmental Institute and Sinsinawa Mounds Collaborative Farm
5. Discuss Partnership Opportunities with other Councils (6:15 PM)
  - a. Update from joint council meeting hosted by Dubuque Food Policy Council
    - i. 3 staff from Linn county attended as well as JCFPC
    - ii. Good discussion from Prof. Dawn Thimany of Colorado about trends in local food systems, AgTourism and value added food as well as the opportunities for Food Hubs
    - iii. Discussion about keeping these contacts alive and become formalized.

- b. Update about Linn County Food Systems Council Community Food System
      - i. Waiting to hear about announcement of assessment grant application
- 6. Discuss Unified Development Ordinance Ag Exemption Draft (6:25 PM)
  - a. Update from Board of Supervisors Work session on Ag Exemption memo
    - i. Supervisors combined it to 2 tiers down from 3 tiers
  - b. Update from Planning and Zoning Commission discussion on Ag Exemption draft
    - i. Discussion continues around CAFOs and Ag exemption definitions
      - 1. More than 25 animal units / acre would trigger a public hearing
      - 2. Giselle will do some further research on 25 AU limit
    - ii. Further clarification regarding discussion about the difference of categories of people showing up on the farm will be appreciated
    - iii. Viability tests would be confidential suggested. Complicated by public record laws. Which lead to specifics that would be required in application.
    - iv. Need to have staff Local Foods Coordinator involved in application process
    - v. Further discussion needed about the fee structure
  - c. Board of Supervisors will discuss draft on Friday, June 28 work session 9:00 AM
- 7. Discuss UDO Position Paper (6:45 PM)
  - a. Narrowed down from 6 pages to 2 pages
  - b. Still looking @ formatting
  - c. 'Reasonable' and predictable perhaps other words or to strike it
  - d. Discussion about keeping the language about off farm income
  - e. Discussion of news release, social media, face to face, direct mailing.
- 8. Update from Marketing Working Group (7:10 PM)
  - a. Next Meeting: Noon @ Betty Sass
  - b. Support Local Foods buttons and/or stickers
- 9. Update from Racial Equity and Food Systems Discussion
  - a. Summary 21 Day Food equity challenge of what people made of the process of how to bring a discussion of racism in the food distribution process
  - b. Will continue this discussion to dig deeper into equity in the food system
    - i. Distribute readings and discussion on a regular basis
    - ii. Look to invite guest speakers as a possibility for further education
    - iii. Discussed taking a similar approach of the Hunger Task Force to help make further recommendations to the BOS on Food Justice
    - iv. Further thought and discussion to move this forward will be brought forward by Ilsa in organizing a few articles for a reading list.
- 10. Discuss opportunities for future public input or small forums
  - a. Put our fliers out @ the Johnson County fair on July 23<sup>rd</sup>
- 11. Updates from council members on issues about local food and agriculture (7:45 PM)
  - a. Farm to Family needs volunteers needed to help distribute at Farm Stands
  - b. 2019 Local Food Guide is coming out in the Little Village tomorrow
  - c. Sept 16-22 Food Festival
  - d. Colony Pumpkin Patch Ag Events application was supported by NL council
  - e. July 15 Food Policy Council Meeting may need to be rescheduled to July 29
- 12. Adjourn: 8:15 PM