



Utah Local Food Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 21st, 2022: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Hosted at the Utah Department of Agriculture & Food Offices in the Taylorsville State Office Building and on Google Meet.

*4315 South 2700 West
TSOB South Bldg, Floor 2
Meeting Room: 22507
Taylorsville, UT 84129-2128*

The public is encouraged to attend.

Voting Members in Attendance:

Garrick Hall
Tamra Jorgenson
Kelsey Hall
Jack Wilbur (Virtual)
Brad Belnap for Janae Duncan
Craig Buttars (Virtual)
Steve Handy (Virtual)
Gina Cornia
Senator Gene Davis

Voting Members Not in Attendance:

Alison Einerson
Jordan Riley
Bjorn Carlson
Clare Collard

Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

Ruby Ward (Virtual)
Symbria Patterson (Virtual/In-Person)

Colleen Dick

Non Voting Members Not in Attendance:

Regan Emmons

Georgina Griffith-Yates

1. Welcome & Introductions - Representative Steve Handy & Senator Gene Davis

5 min

- a. Opening remarks - *Representative Handy*
- b. Roll call attendance
- c. Review and approve meeting minutes from the December 2021 meeting. Motion to accept - Gina Cornia. Roll Call Vote: All in attendance in favor.

2. Quick Updates

5 Min.

- a. Administrative - *Calli Forsyth, Utah Department of Ag & Food*
 - i. Conflict of interest forms - yearly conflict of interest forms. Need someone 18 years of age or older to watch members sign conflict of interest forms.
 - ii. Seeking reimbursement for incurred expenses - email to voting members, they need to fill out human resources form for reimbursements
 - iii. Two new member spots are open. Moving to 15 voting members.
- b. Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program - *Natalie Loots, Utah Department of Health. Natalie was not in attendance so Laura Holtrop Kohl presented.*
 - Working on an application for a non-competitive USDA Grant for disadvantaged local farmers to connect them to disadvantaged communities. The state has allocated 2.2 million. 40% of those funds are reserved for Utah tribes.
 - Qualifying projects need to have a 51% minimum spent on food
 - Need help identifying disadvantaged farmers. Will need to work on a definition of disadvantaged farmers
 - Want to create RFA in 2023

3. 2022 Legislative Session Review

30 Min.

- a. Overview of the session - what went right and what didn't
 - i. LFAC Reauthorization

- ii. Farm To School Appropriation
 Senator Davis:
 - Did not pass legislation. Most didn't understand what was being done with Farm to School. Needed representation and education from a spokesperson, Calli Forsyth proposed a retreat to educate legislators. Garrick Hall proposed maybe talking about it at Interim.
- iii. Food Hub Appropriation
 Senator Davis:
 - Did not pass. The same issue of misunderstanding. The legislature seemed to be confused as to what the Food Hub does that is different from the Farm Bureau or Food Bank.
- iv. Utah Farmers Market Network Appropriation:
 Senator Davis:
 - Did not pass. The same issue of misunderstanding. Kelsey Hall and Gina Cornia said they are working to get better organization and better transparency.
- v. Various Water Bills
 - This was not discussed because the person assigned to review them had a last-minute emergency and could not attend.
- vi. Others
 - This was not discussed because the person assigned to review them had a last-minute emergency and could not attend.

4. LFAC Member Survey Results Review - Calli Forsyth, UDAF

10 Min.

See the survey results presentation attached.

Calli Forsyth: Survey was completed by 10 of the voting and non-voting members. Need more participation. The focus is on increasing the Local Food Advisory Council community. More minority community representation, more hands-on with producers and distributors. The survey was a short 8-question survey. All the answers were on par with what was talked about by Senator Davis, Representative Handy, Linda Gillmor, and Calli Forsyth.

Ideas from survey answers:

- Stronger connection with farmers and producers
- Ideas for forming forums
- More engagement from council members and elected officials
- Set Tangible goals

- Pulling in public to meetings
- Reducing the time between the October meeting and the April meeting
- Paid ads for LFAC
- Establish Local Food Advisories in counties
- Be more unified

5. New LFAC Structure Review - Senator Davis

45 Min.

See the one-page summary of LFAC changes attached - this was reviewed with the Council.

Gina Cornia said that having the virtual option as well as the in-person would be nice in case people get sick or can't travel. Laura Kohl said that having it virtual has opened it up to rural Utah people that want to attend.

Senator Davis:

Senator Davis agrees that this is a good idea. Davis wants diversity on sub-committees. Looking into the option for sub-committees to be virtual. Will go through a list of people who have opted-in to serve as sub-committee chairs.

Calli Forsyth says she would like to know what groups should be brought in to diversify the council. She has tried to get in contact with tribes from Utah.

International Rescue, Hispanic Chamber, and Spice Kitchen were also brought up. Next meeting in June chairs will have chosen members of sub-committees. First presentations in August meeting.

6. National Food Policy/Advisory Council Best Practices - Kelsey Hall, Utah State University

20 Min.

See the attached presentation that was reviewed during the LFAC meeting.

Kelsey Hall presented best practices for the Local Food Advisory Council. Other states' data was very helpful in the findings. Michigan, Iowa, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Colorado were analyzed and interviewed. Conducted phone interviews and found best practices from these states.

Kelsey Hall said we need to evaluate and measure the council's impact.

7. Closing Remarks - Representative Steve Handy & Senator Gene Davis

5 Min.

The next meeting is on June 23rd, 1 pm-3 pm in conference room 22507. Motion to adjourn by Gina Cornia - Approved

