



Utah Local Food Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 15th, 2022: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Hosted at the Utah Department of Agriculture & Food Offices in the Taylorsville State Office Building. 4315 South 2700 West TSOB South Bldg, Floor 2 Meeting Room: 22507 Taylorsville, UT 84129-2128

Virtual option is on Google invite. The public is encouraged to attend

Voting Members in Attendance:

Alison Einerson
Steve Handy
Gene Davis
Clare Collard
Kelly Pehrson for Craig Buttars
Laurie Seron
Jack Wilbur (Virtual)
Brad Belnap for Janae Duncan (Virtual)
Gina Cornia (Virtual)
Tamra Jorgenson
Kelsey Hall (Virtual)

Voting Members Not in Attendance:

Bjorn Carlson
Jordan Riley

Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

Georgina Griffith-Yates (Virtual)
Ruby Ward
Symbria Patterson
Colleen Dick

Non-Voting Members Not in Attendance:

Regan Emmons

- 1. Welcome & Introductions - Senator Gene Davis**
 - a. Opening remarks - *Senator Davis*
 - b. Roll call attendance
 - c. Review and approve meeting minutes from the July 2022 meeting. Motion to accept - Clare Collard. Second: Kelly Pehrson. All in attendance in favor.

- 2. Local Food Purchasing Assistance Program Update - Natalie Loots, Utah Department of Health & Human Services**
 - a. Gave an update on Double Up Food Bucks and SNAP (No final numbers) \$128,000 roughly redeemed in SNAP and \$84,000 in Double Up Food Bucks.
 - b. New Program to promote spending money at farmer's markets
 - c. Local Food Purchase Assistance Program Grant from the USDA

- 3. Farm to School Update - Kate Wheeler, Utah State Board of Education**
 - a. Farm to Form had vision sessions to access future of program. They found they need to make agriculture a universal part of the Utah education experience in all subjects and grades, staff nutrition specialists, Increase processing facilities and marketing for Utah local food, educate importance of nutrition.

- 4. Soil Health Program and Regenerative Agriculture Update - Tony Richards, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food**
 - a. Taught producers at a conference that is biggest in the West. There was education and outreach to teach producers about soil health, with demonstrations.

- 5. Agricultural Land Preservation - The LeRay McAllister Critical Lands Conservation Fund - Garrick Hall, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food**
 - a. Gave an update on the LeRay McAllister Critical Land Conservation Fund which focused on loss of agricultural land by metropolitan areas. This program focuses on education on local foods and how this will help preserve farms close to home.

- 6. Utah Farm and Food Conference Update - Symbria Patterson, Red Acre Center**

- a. Gave an update on the Farm and Food Conference down in Cedar City at Red Acre Center. Dates are January 12-14 2023. This conference gathers producers, consumers, educators, etc. Anyone who is interested in food. They have classes, lectures, keynotes, from Utah food advocates.

7. Local Food Advisory Council Housekeeping

- a. Current open voting member seats - Local Agricultural Organization and other
- b. Workgroup chairs
 - i. Agricultural Land Preservation
 - ii. Food Security
 - iii. Production and Distribution
 - iv. Regulations

Each chair will have the following responsibilities:

- i. Manage workgroup membership
- ii. Set up workgroup meetings and agendas
- iii. Determine action items and delegate them to team members
- iv. Compile and deliver workgroup discussion in LFAC meeting

Mitch did email past chairs and people who have expressed interest to ask which group they would like to be a chair for. Gene and Steve will pick so next meeting we can start populating workgroups.

- c. Food Hub Trip Recap from Caroline Hargraves.
 - Gene Davis, Steve Handy, and Caroline Hargraves went to Montana to visit Mission West food hub and Western Montana Growers Cooperative food hub. These facilities help small distributors and producers reach farther to communities that they wouldn't typically get to. All the resources are pooled together to help.
- d. Open Discussion: resolving issues related to distribution and establishing a food hub in Utah
 - Biggest hurdle is picking who should be in charge of this. Private vs Government? One person vs Committee?

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

- Motion to adjourn by Clare Collard - Approved