

Forming the Middlesex London Food Policy Council

May 5, 2016

8am-12pm

Civic Gardens Complex

625 Springbank Dr. London, Ontario

Attendance: See Attached list

1) Welcome from Martha Powell, London Community Foundation.

2) Introductions

3) Preview of Community Food Assessment (CFA)

- Environmental Scan ; very complex because food system is so complex; several gaps in the information
- Community Engagement; 30 stakeholder interviews and 770 community respondents
- Assets and gaps determined
- Asset Mapping and Priority Setting session
- Report writing
- Highlights of CFA presented
- Significant gaps in information re: funding possibilities; barrier is public access to information on food funding
- Recommendations for Moving forward; who are the change-makers?

Questions:

- How was information obtained? Where is the information? The food flow through the province, municipalities is not tracked. No tracking system in place. Need to provide system and incentives for producers and retailers to both source locally but also to report where it comes from and where it goes.
- Copies of report; Jenn/Cheryl Smith will be able to print copies of the CFA report upon request.
- Food service industry; tracking is done for recall purposes but is that info not available? Only for larger quantities; more difficult for local products; food distributors are not required to report where they source their food; need stakeholder buy in in order to develop a mandatory local tracking system; research happening and with DNA tracking of food but not on a broad scale as yet.

4) Draft Terms of Reference

- Jane Roy introduced
- Sections that have already been discussed in previous forums including Mission, Vision and Activities which will not be further discussed today
- Some sections where decisions and details will be made by Food Policy Council (FPC) once it is in place

5) Small Groups discussed questions and/or strengths and weaknesses of the Terms of Reference (see attached for notes on discussion)

6) Start up Process and Timeline of MLFPC

- With the Application Review Committee leading process:

Option A- Applications>Candidate Review (based on matrix)>Candidates Appointed

Option B- Applications> Candidate Review (based on matrix)>Slate nominated>Candidates Elected

- Suggestion to use Option A as start up Council and then they could initiate Option B where a vote for membership is held
- Without initial appointment option, may not end up with strong candidates
- Recruiting from working groups for future food policy members
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DECISION Group decided that for initial FPC, go with Option A

Proposed Timeline:

May 2016- Appointment of Selection Committee

June 2016- June 10 CFA Media launch and call for FPC applications

Summer 2016- FPC Application Review

Early Fall 2016- Appoint /Elect FPC members

7) Selection Committee- Role and Composition

- Selection committee needs to be able to recruit from the community in order to fill all categories
- Need representative from county and city
- Implementation team members to be asked?
- Ellen will take suggested names for selection committee; send to ellen.lakusiak@mlhu.on.ca
- Someone that has been involved throughout the process, like City or LCF
- Need one community member
- Council member from one of the reserves

DECISION Group decided there should be 5 members of selection committee including MLHU and London Food Bank supportive role

8) Capacity

- MLHU .25 FTE and London Food Bank as trustee; both as non-voting

9) CFA Event

- London Community Foundation page and MLHU page to host the report
- Collaborative media launch open to the community
- Local food and beverages to be featured
- Component to be included that FPC recommendation as part of Poverty panel

- June 10 is a PD day
- Fanshawe and Western programs
- Mayor to attend, Warden and MOH

DECISION June 10 be media event to launch the CFA but also serve as a Call to Action for recruiting FPC members

- Consider one pager of report to summarize rec. for media

RECOMMENDATION Harvest Festival Thanksgiving weekend 2016 at Covent Market opportunity for FPC introduction and a larger community event

Meeting closed at 12 noon.

Food Policy Council Forum May 5, 2016 List of Attendees

Boyd	Anne
Chowns	Jaimie
Clark	Michael
Colihan	Mary Ann
Corke	David
Davies	Linda
Doxtator	Gloria
Ellis	Becky
Fleet	Andrew
Gilliland	Jason
Graham	Katie
Kordyuk	Ulyana
Lakusiak	Ellen
McLeod	Don
Meyer	Marcel
Powell	Martha
Powers	Nancy
Prentice	Lynn
Rice	Melissa
Roy And	Jane And
Pearson	Glen
Sass	Gabor
Simpson	Sheila
Smith	Cheryl
Smythe	Cindy
Stobo	Linda
Szoller	Diane
Temme	Maureen
Van Holst	Michael
Vandervoort	Suzanne
Warring	Carrie
Zurbrigg	Jocelyn
Turnbull	Ryan
Benson	Trevor
Wills	Margaret

Notes from Small Working Groups

Table 1

Terms of reference feedback... should include the importance of empowering individuals in the food system

- Question about wording and how to make this more prominent
- How to make this more prominent within the goal of the food policy council
- Importance of including small farmers on the FPC, not just large, corporate farming
- The school boards should be involved with this too
- FPC – where will it sit?
 - Advisory committee at the city?
 - If it is City, what will be the voting role of city staff?
- Where do grassroots organizations fit within the food policy council
 - Will there be a place for them to make their suggestions to the council? Where does this feedback go?
- Liked the benefit of a smaller core group to move on issues quickly
- Noted the challenge of bringing partners together on an initiative – is it the role of the FPC to facilitate this networking?
- Will there be annual (regular) consultation sessions with the community
- How do we keep the community informed and educated about what the FPC is doing

Table 2

2 comments/suggestions

Governance

- Who does it report to? Go the city for lobby for funding?
- Steering committee?
- Will the budget from forward who has
- No media
- Application
- More than a month for
- 2 sport for regular people?
- No one can prosper from anything.

Values

- Actions of council itself
- Council acts transparent
- Transparency
- Getting info out to everyone in the community
- Membership – inclusive
- Specific parents rep.

- Researcher

Who receives the funds?

- London food bank
- Non-profit
- Registered charity
- Other funding
- Dollar and in-kind services

Leverage

- Look at what has have achieved
- Transparent in-kind and contributions

Terms of Reference

- Who is it accountable to? Who holds the food policy council accountable?
- Don't be over-burdened with working out policy issues – let the council do it.
- Take the momentum and launch.
- .25 of Ellen's FTE is local food council.
- It needs autonomy from Health Unit – that is consistent.
 - Support
 - Life of its own
- Loose ties and ability to advocate for change.
- Accountability to community – engagement and involvement
- Focus on empowerment to be active and participate and community orgs to organize their own programs.
- ID way to sit priorities with Council and community consultation

Table 3

- Want critical / urgent changes / missing things from the ToR?

Values – equity (remove “fair” – focus on equitable access, not “equal”).

Sustainability – reword to reflect the need for sustainability of the FPC / initiatives, values for FPC members / inward looking.

Vision – replace “sustain” with “support” or another equivalent term.

Transparency – as existing it is not attainable, reword to reflect FPC (both inward/ outward), committee, action groups need to operate transparently, understand the org practices used to produce their food.

Membership – more representative for community groups (increase to 4), people working on the ground; need to balance with need to build consensus; who does the committee report to? Where is accountability?

Table 4

- Whose responsibility is for communication of action groups?
- FPC decides on action groups? Issues or can community bring.

- How are action groups decided upon?
- Add research as a position on council.
- Add research under activities.
- Activities – potential conflict of interest, represented as an individual or on behalf of an org.
- Add in resources – research person FTE
- City and other reps that are appointed as 2yrs term also?
- Should be continuity of membership, at least in 1st few years.
- Has the city committed resources like MLHU has?
- How will chair be chosen?
- Representative from all membership categories here today? Will this be difficult to get? How do we keep this?
- Waste Mgt. – who is this?
- What will be the process if membership drop off?
- Is ML FPC ultimately accountable to the community?

Table 5

Values – change to... for the council’s work to achieve the following in our community:

Transparency – add bullet: People have a right to know what is being discussed within the FPC and play a role with input and evaluation of action.

Membership – add: poverty rep (i.e. mayor task force on poverty or Salvation Army); research (from an academic institute, i.e. Jason at Western).

Sticky Note and Chart Paper Summaries:

1) Selection Committee

- MLHU
- London Food Bank
- Community Member(s) → MLCFAIT (rural/urban)
- London Community Foundation
- Chief / Council Member from Reserve

2) Membership, add: Poverty Rep (i.e. Mayor’s Task Force), Research (i.e. Jason from Western

- Values: transparency (everyone to be informed and educated)
- Values, change: Councils work to achieve the following in our community:
- Membership: members from significant ethnic groups (i.e. Hispanic is about 10% of our population)

3) Where will the funding come from?

- Who does it report to?
- Funding: Make the dollars and in-kind services to work at what we have achieved transparent so that it can be communicated to the community at large.

4) Who decides on action groups? Comes from community or decided by FPC or both? Where does the responsibility lie?

- Research is missing on membership list (should not be included in education). Research should also be on an activity of FPC.

5) Values should be inward (FPC) and outward (food systems).

- Who is the FPC accountable to? How?

6) Way to inform priority setting of council

- Empowerment more visible in document
- Like results, quick win, “doing”

7) **Launch**

- Website?
- Collaborative media launch to community
- Creative/participatory element
- Local food showcase (e.g. fair, farmers markets)
- Large print signage/info
- Mayor to attend and Warden, Medical Officer of Health
- Focus: CFA and Story of FPC formation
 - Call to action
- Media launch as recruitment tool
- 1 pager for community strategy
- FPC Launch at Fall Harvest Festival (Covent Garden)
- Alternative distribution (offline)

8) **Candidates for FPC**

- Gary Zavitz
- Diane Szoller
- Jason Gilliland