

Pajaro Valley Food, Farming, and Health Policy Council Meeting

Date: June 9, 2020 1:30p.m.-3:00p.m.

Locations: 85 Nielson Street Watsonville, CA 95076 (ZOOM)

Attendees: (ZOOM)

Sarah Marschall (FFHPC), Lisa McGrath (PVCHT), Melanie Wong (FFHPC), Gustavo Indarose (PVCHT), Kathleen Kilpatrick (Safe Ag Safe Schools), Josue Barajas (Second Harvest), Kristal Caballero (SC Public Health), Nancy Faulstich (Regeneracion), Hektor Calderon (Safe Ag Safe Schools), Mayra Hernandez (Community Water Center), Gabriela Sanchez (Jovenes SANOS), Maria Cadenas (SCCV), Guillermina Hernandez (Catholic Charities)

Welcome & Introduction:

- Sarah called the meeting to start at 1:33 p.m.
- Sarah walked us through the agenda.
- Sarah invited everyone to share how they are doing and what is on their heart today.

Governance Update:

- Sarah reminded the group that most FPCs start as a response to an unjust food system.
- Sarah read some article titles for the group to refer to - to learn about important food justice topics.
- Sarah read through the most up to date work on our governance structure and bylaws that our council has developed so far.
- Sarah reviewed the actions items around governance for today.
- Sarah invited the group to ask questions.
- Kathleen asked some questions around the language being used in the bylaws, total number of members, our ability to generate reports, having non adjunct members who can speak for the group.
- Sarah asked the group how we would like to select representatives to speak for the council.
- Maria said she is fine with having staff representation so long as staff is educated and able to speak on the topic. And that it could be emergent given the expertise in the group.
- Melanie shared that often FPCs will have staff be the first point of contact but should be aware of who the expertise of the council is.
- Josue read the council membership requirements for the group to review.
- Sarah asked the group to offer any revisions to the membership composition.
- Maria offered a correction.
- Sarah asked if anyone would make a motion to approve these draft bylaws.
- Kristal made a motion to approve the bylaws.
- Josue made a second.
- The group agreed in the spirit of consensus to approve these bylaws.
- Sarah asked if anyone is interested in joining the membership committee group.

- Melanie said that there is a need for member outreach.
- Jose and Mayra also volunteered to join the membership/outreach committees.

Action Updates:

Protection for Farmworkers during COVID-19

- Kristal said that there is little evidence to show that farmers are giving their workers COVID-19 prevention education.
- Kristal asked if folks here about any gaps in COVID-19 education prevention in the community to please connect with her.
- Sara shared that there in the ag. Space companies are having some trouble to get their employees to comply with prevention measures like wearing masks.
- Melanie shared that in Salinas that medical personnel going out to the fields to offer education is very helpful, it's a structures solution that is free for farmers to utilize.
- Sarah asked anyone who might have information to share with Kristal

Draft Food System Assessment

- Sara shared the status of her assessment.
- Sara asked if anyone can share any quotes, photos, feedback or additional information to send that to her by the 6/22/20.

Sugar Sweetened Beverage Tax Update

- Watsonville city council voted 4-3 to approve a resolution for SB-872.
- Melanie shared that there was an error on the end of the campaign managers having shared the wrong bill number resulting in several cities voting on the wrong bill number.
- Melanie started communicating with cities of Santa Cruz and Berkeley to understand how they will work through having voted on the incorrect bill number and support the city of Watsonville to follow suit.

Policy Updates

SNAP/ CalFresh Letter

- Sarah asked if this group is willing to sign on to support this initiative.
- Kristal made a motion to support sign on
- Guillermina made a second.
- Gustavo will sign the letter on behalf of the group

Calendaring, Announcements, and Closing Remarks

- Nancy shared the Regeneracion is hosting an event about raising temperatures in the Pajaro Valley along with panel of farmers to talk about how they are affected by local climate change on August 5 3:00p.m. -5:00 p.m.

- Maria shared some demographics on who is working with undocufund. There is still more money to give out but they need more help and capacity to give out the funds as there is more money to distribute. Maria asked that if anyone knows community leaders or families who may have been left out to connect with her.
- Lisa shared that the PVCHT is hiring a new RD to lead the DHC and asked if this group can help share this information.
- Hektor shared that SASS and Pesticide Reform has a petition that he would like for this group to sign on and support.
- Melanie shared that through the Great Plates program that only one Watsonville business was contracted to participate. This is believed to be an equity issue. We need more information about why more businesses in Watsonville were not selected.
- Melanie also shared that we should be conscious about what is happening with restaurant operations happening around reopening.
- Nancy shared that Climate Justice Alliance is releasing People's Orientation to a Regenerative Economy.