

Food & Farm Council of Riley County & City of Manhattan

**December 6, 2021, 11:30 am-1:00 pm, Extension Office Conference room, 110
Courthouse Plaza**

Recorded Meeting Link:

https://ksu.zoom.us/rec/share/TU6HbWrfY2n6rSZ5wA_XH1TCfb1ZvryjTZ1mD436ZZJFaSGSiGX7DDVCYI-a_W_9.yq2lnA9dU9liDRgg Passcode: &K5T+*FK

In Attendance:

Carol Barta, Joshua Brewer, Andrea DeJesus, Megan Dougherty, John Green, Sharolyn Jackson, Kate Larosh, Jacquie Mack, Maureen Olewnik, David Procter, Adrian Self, Stephanie Smith, Kirsten Spear, Michael Wilson, Vickie James (FFC Coordinator), Shanika Rose.

Unable to Attend: Mary Mertz, Elias Martinson, Julie Gibbs

Guests: Anna Biggins, Jade Valdez-Gomez, Samantha Brethoor, Paige Burkhart, Carleigh Melafehik, Dallas Rice, Carol Shanklin, Eileen Horn, Caroline Myran.

1. Vickie will be stepping away from many of her current duties as FFC coordinator in a phased approach with the focus to seek funding support for a staff position or advisory consultant for some of the coordination. In a small start, our chair and co-chair (Maureen and Adrian) will be facilitating the meetings from now on.
2. Presentation from Eileen Horn and Caroline Myran with New Venture Advisors, which is the company we hired to help us build the master food plan.
 - a. Today they are presenting an update on our project.
 - i. NVA is a strategy consulting firm specializing in food systems.
 - ii. What is a food system plan? An interconnected forward-thinking plan that strengthens a community and regional food system through the creation and implementation of plans and policies.
 1. Community health assessment – assesses community health conditions
 2. Community health plan - lays out objectives and strategies to address community health needs
 - b. Overview of goals, objectives, action steps
 - c. Overview of the plan of work
 - d. We had the best turnout for our community-wide survey they've ever seen.
 - e. They will come back in January with specific goals for us to prioritize.
 - f. Our next steps are strategy, compilation, and adoption in April or May. This last process might take longer than expected.
 - g. Covid impact video – a collection of stories and data from an assortment of partners from our food system packaged as a 3-minute video with additional data/information.
 - h. Survey results: goals for our community

- i. The highest three goals were to reduce hunger and food insecurity in our community, ensure access to healthier food for all, reduce food waste and related solid wastes.
 - 1. Education and outreach will be a theme woven into each goal rather than a standalone goal.
 - i. Caroline Myrna ran through the results from all 30 questions on our survey.
 - j. Overview of demographics of people who completed the survey.
 - k. Overview of master food plan summit on October 18, 2021
 - i. 65 attendees
 - ii. Discussed natural resources and food waste, food retail and farming, access to healthy food reducing food insecurity, health and wellness, food education, and culture.
 - 1. Sorting feedback from 4 groups into key themes: infrastructure solution, policy solutions, taxes/incentives, leadership, and education.
 - a. Examples: food and farm retail
 - i. Infrastructure: year-round farmers market and culinary kitchen facility.
 - ii. Policy solution: farm to school purchasing policies
 - iii. Taxes/incentives: elimination of sales tax on locally grown food sold at farmers' markets.
 - iv. Education: farm-to-school programming.
 - v. City/county leadership: Buy local purchasing policy to leverage city and county resources
3. Presentation from the Staley School of Leadership studies food security scholars
 - a. Designing a work plan for community-wide food recovery – Their “ideas”
 - i. “Food distribution system”
 - ii. Identify - a distribution system for food recovery, technology, and volunteers.
 - iii. Overview of flow of an app that can be designed to manage the flow of donations/requests.
 - iv. How will the app work? It will keep track of incoming and outgoing donations. There will be a schedule of food in and out. Inventory will be kept of the quantity of food available. It will show when perishable food is close to expiration. There will be an estimate of how much food to give based on family size based on distribution methods.
 - v. Training for the app: training will be integrated within the app. Easy to use, so not much training will be needed. Volunteers would have to understand scheduling and quantities/inventory.
 - vi. Existing systems in Manhattan – Food Recovery K-State, Breadbasket, Konza Student table, Common Table, Manhattan Soup Kitchen.
 - vii. Identifying donors: grocery stores, businesses, individual donors.
 - viii. Promotion: HandsOn k-state, social media, word of mouth, emailing organizations, student promotion.
 - ix. Food specifications and safety
 - 1. Maintenance

- a. Temps and cleanliness
 - b. Lead volunteer responsibility of schedule bi-weekly checks
 - 2. Time between pickup and delivery
 - a. 2 days max
 - b. Schedule pickup /drop on in advance.
 - 3. Acceptable food
 - a. From reputable sources
 - b. Work with established partners
 - c. No smaller than 50 servings/pickup for efficiently
 - x. Logistics
 - 1. Pre-scheduled deliveries and pick-ups
 - 2. Stable partnerships
 - 3. Volunteers
 - xi. Management proposal
 - 1. Volunteer position/part-time employee
 - 2. Provide volunteer guidance and risk management support
 - 3. Oversee fridge cleanliness
 - xii. Risk management
 - 1. How long with food stay in the fridge?
 - 2. The app breaks down
 - 3. No one picks up the order
 - xiii. Recommendations for the next group
 - 1. Create a training book
 - 2. Contact potion partners
 - 3. Start volunteer search
- b. Food insecurity education
- i. “Creating a more food secure world”
 - ii. K-State has an abundance of resources available to the community without traveling long distances. Below are places where food is available and where education presentations can be made
 - 1. Cats’ cupboard food pantry
 - 2. Mobile food distribution
 - 3. Konza student table
 - 4. Common table
 - 5. Downtown farmers market (items are purchased)
 - a. These resources are listed on the nourish together website.
 - iii. The group plans to connect this presentation with new students by asking professors to give them time to give this presentation.
4. A good portion of the Peine grant we applied for has been approved, and we’ll be able to use the money from this grant to work on the food insecurity program.
5. What are some challenges with the food recovery program?
- a. What would we do with large donations that need to be broken down?
 - b. Who owns the responsibility of transportation?
 - c. How will the app be updated down the line?
 - d. What health standards should we implement for the drivers (car cleanliness, pets, et cetera)
- 6. Until we meet again**

- a. Next FFC meeting date/location, Monday, January 17th, Via zoom



In accordance with provisions of the American Disabilities Act, every attempt will be made to accommodate the needs of person with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in and enjoy the benefits of our services, programs, and activities. Please contact the Health Department Administration Office (785-776-4779) for assistance.