

Food & Farm Council of Riley County & City of Manhattan

September 21st, 11:30am-12:45pm ZOOM Meeting

In Attendance: Carol Barta, Joshua Brewer, Megan Dougherty, John Green, Sharolyn Jackson, Jacquie Mack, Maureen Olewnik, David Procter, Adrian Self, Stephanie Smith, Kirsten Spear, Michael Wilson, Vickie James (FFC Coordinator), Elias Martinson, City Liaison, Shanika Rose, County Liaison

Guests: Ann Smit, Mary Mertz

Unable to Attend: Jennifer Morris, Jaden Castinado, Andrea DeJesus.

Welcome, Any guests? Roll will be called so those listening and without video can identify who is present. Please also, state your name when speaking throughout the meeting.

1. Building the Framework

- a. Thank you for volunteering for COVID testing events. Council members have helped with paperwork and handing out food during the last few rounds of testing in our community, and it is much appreciated.
- b. Konza Student Table launched!
 - i. The Food Insecurity CAT has been working on creating additional free communal meal sites in Manhattan. Students are a group that have been underrepresented at meal sites. Even though they are welcome to attend Common Table meals, student turnout tends to be low. The CAT and Father Gale Hammerschmidt at St. Isidore's have created the Konza Student table to address this need.
 1. The meals are hot meals that are held cold (for food safety) in a biodegradable box as well as a bagged breakfast for the next day. It's a no-contact and accessible by drive up or walk up.
 2. On the first Wednesday they served 280 meals (despite the rain), and remaining meals were donated to the Crisis Stabilization Center in Manhattan.
 3. The next Wednesday they served 300 meals in 45 minutes and ran out.
 4. Students have been genuinely thankful.
 5. The KSU Hospitality Management department and Lacy's Fresh Fare and Catering have taken on the food preparation for the meals. This is great experience for the students in planning, ordering, and executing large meals.
- c. Vickie scheduled a Blessing Box committee volunteer for an interview with KSNT about the Blessing Box project. It was nice to have public acknowledgement and promotion of this project and its growth.
- d. There was a Manhattan Mercury article about the Konza Student Table.

- e. State Extension presentation – Sharolyn and Megan shared the Kitchen Restore project with Family and Consumer Sciences colleagues. They gave an outline of the FFC and the Kitchen Restore effort. There was lots of interest, and Sharolyn expects replication of the project across the state in the next year.
 - f. Pathways Grant
 - i. The Flint Hills Wellness Coalition has received this grant. There will be 300k in implementation dollars. One the pathways that was written into the grant was specifically for the FFC and the projects in our CATS.
 - g. Kitchen Restore has a home in Manhattan!!!
 - i. (Sharolyn is sharing for Megan, who doesn't have audio today) We have a permanent home above the Salvation Army on Poyntz Ave. This is a really ideal location because it has a kitchen to get items cleaned up and public presence for drop-offs. This starts on October 1st, and we will have a work day to move items. Sharolyn wanted to extend thanks to St. Patrick's church in Ogden for letting us use this space in the interim while looking for a Manhattan location.
2. What's Our Work?
- a. Equity within the food system discussion
 - i. Our statement is still in progress
 - 1. Josh – stalled out because he's unsure how much to ask of the council in this statement/how much we are willing to adopt as a council.
 - 2. David – it's a statement of equity that guides us, not a list of projects – or is this not correct?
 - a. This is also Kirsten and Ann's understanding.
 - b. Josh – but how will we apply the statement in every decision the council makes? We need to figure that out before finalizing the statement.
 - c. Vickie – think of it like HiaP – Equity in the food system is something we consider in all council decisions.
 - d. Carol – We should keep food sovereignty in mind, making sure that something is place to make sure people have culturally appropriate choices within the work the council does.
 - e. Vickie will schedule a zoom meeting to hash out the rest of this statement.
 - f. Josh - Should the council represent the people in community in race, gender, and economics?
 - i. David and Vickie – Yes, but the challenge is finding the people with the skill set, time, desire.
 - b. What's next for each Community Action Team (CATS)?
 - i. Where do we go from here? We've experienced set backs in some of our CATs with COVID challenges, and some of our subcommittees have had big wins.

1. Waste CAT
 - a. Has had lots of good conversations and excitement.
2. Food Insecurity CAT
 - a. Konza Student table has been a big win, but the work doesn't stop there. What is next?
3. Education CAT
 - a. This CAT has been challenged by the impact of COVID on education this year.
3. Shared Purpose · Logo/Brand, URL www.nourishtogether.org
 - a. Website update, Council member editors (photos, resources)
 - i. The website is almost there! Content is being entered this week. By Monday we will be able to review the site.
 1. Jacquie – thank you to Vickie for stepping up to doing the bulk of this work!
 2. We will have 50 partners on the website, and that wouldn't have happened without our community building work as a council.
 3. How do we want to publicize the site?
 - a. Jacquie plans to share the information with her contacts
 - b. John – do we have a QR code?
 - c. Kirsten – flyer with QR code that we can post in our spheres
 - i. Vickie notes that someone will need to make this flyer
 - d. Sharolyn – Media/radio, sharable on social media all in the same month so people will see it several times in a short period.
 4. Do we want a Facebook page?
 - a. General consensus is no, but we can create a document for our partners to share on their platforms.
 - b. Vickie – we have the Nourish Together brand that we can use for marketing
 5. Adrian, Sharolyn, and Megan have agreed to be the web editors for the website.
 - b. Doc sharing platform being used?
 - i. How are we using the doc sharing platform?
 1. Vickie still sends out links in emails because she is not sure that people are accessing our shared Google Drive.
 2. We have information collected there that we might need in the future.
- c. Next meeting date/location (Monday, October 19th, 2020, 11:30am) via Zoom