



Maryland Food System Resiliency Council

Draft Agenda for Jun 2, 2022

Time	Agenda Item
10:00	<p>Welcome</p> <p>A. Roll Call</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quorum number determine at 21 present members 2. Adopted minutes from May 3. Adopted June 2rd Agenda <p>B. MD FSRC Co-Chair Election</p> <p>Statute requires the Co-Chair to be from one of the Food Policy Councils. Current eligible members for this position are: ● Heather Bruskin ● Sydney Daigle ● Theresa Stahl RD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Janice Wiles <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sydney Daigle volunteered to be the next co-chair. The Council voted unanimously in favor of making Sydney the Co-Chair. 2. Heather Bruskin volunteered to support the legislative work by Co-Chairing the Communications and Coordination subcommittee during the session.
10:20	<p>FSRC Work Plan</p> <p>A. June - Nov 2022 Work Plan Proposal Note: <i>Timeline - All dates below are standing FSRC meetings except November 1.</i> The Council voted unanimously to adopt the Work Plan as proposed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. June 2, 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review and vote on draft work plan ○ Vote to adopt mid-year report 2. July 7, 2022 (Tentative FSRC Meeting) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Subcommittee updates 3. August 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discuss and vote on content/recommendations from Subcommittees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Initial presentation of organization/structure courses of action 4. S eptember 1, 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discuss and vote on final

11:00

content/recommendations from Subcommittees

- September 19 - First draft report submitted to Council members (email)

11:30

5. October 3 - Final comments on first report due to MDEM staff (email)
 - Week of October 17 - Final draft to Council for review
 - Week of October 24 - Special Meeting to discuss and vote on final report
6. November 1 - Report submitted to Maryland General Assembly

June FSRC Mid-Year Report

- A. Council Accepted and Adopted FSRC Mid-Year Report for publication

Distribution and Access Update

- A. Diana Taylor- Subcommittee members continue to examine the idea/recommendation for food council implementation in each county. Research is focused on finding a structure/organization to house a county or jurisdictional-based food policy council, as well as, best-practice standards for organizational operations.
- B. Recent subject matter experts spoke with the subcommittee, Pamela M. Brown PhD for A.A. Co. Partnership for Children Youth and Families (Local Management Board) – members desire to examine the function and structure of LMB within various communities. Members recognized each LMB operates differently based on the jurisdictional needs and resources, which may provide a unique hosting opportunity for a local food policy council.
- C. Next invited subject matter experts are Heather Bruskin and Sydney Daigle on food policy councils (discussing benefits, barriers, and challenges in food policy council operations) to determine if food policy councils can be a viable strategy as a recommendation or mandate from the State level.

Environment and Production Update

- A. Dr. Stephanie Lansing- Subcommittee members are examining what already exists regarding guidelines and practices for incentivizing food choice programs, food pantries, farmers' markets, farmers' market associations, and preparing local food (i.e. what reports are written). This google document was shared at the previous meeting
- B. Subcommittee members have begun to identify gaps, starting with Maryland's Best (run by MDA). Subcommittee members want to examine how we can support this work. Also supporting restarting the Maryland Farmers' Association (spearheaded by Steve McHenry MARBICO, listening sessions) specifically focusing on what a Maryland Farmers' Association looks like.
- C. Maryland Healthy Soils discussion, subcommittee members are exploring how we can extend healthy soils to healthy foods, or begin considering what is grown on top of the soil. Other topics of note include, regenerative farming practices, table crops vs. commodity crops. Two Ag

economists provide other factors to examine including labor shortage, permitting processes, canning or other food processing, water needs, and barriers for small scale producers.

- D. Two sub-subcommittees were created to tackle climate change adaptation and mitigating the carbon footprint.

Council Member Round Table & Updates A.

Upcoming Lunch and Learns:

1. June 7th – Equity Presentation with Dr. Pollack Porter from JHU
 2. June 15th – Food as Medicine Presentation with Leslie Jefferson from Giant Food
 3. July 20th – Maryland Department of Emergency Management with Chas Eby (Deputy Executive Director) from MDEM
- B. Fraud with WIC and SNAP Benefits, DHS unable to replace stolen funds
 1. Previous knowledge suggest SNAP has a low rate of fraud, this current situation is believed to be happening at the retailer level
 2. This fraud concern has been a problem for the last 24 months, Federal regulations do not allow reimbursement of SNAP benefits, cash option fraud has recently increased (DHS is actively working to find the appropriate funding source to replace stolen cash benefits). Ongoing work with DHS includes the inspector general.
 3. DHS has sent correspondence to participants, and posted messaging on social media to caution participants about the ongoing fraud situation.
 - C. The States Department of Assessments and Taxation
 1. Began taxing Agricultural Buildings at the commercial rate, instead of the agricultural tax rate, which is a significant increase for farmers.
 2. The senate bill presented was not approved, but was converted into a study.
 3. The new taxation will impact on-site farm markets (business where production of the produce is sold on the property, like farm winery, farm brewery, and farm distillery)
 4. Possible option/topic for E&P Subcommittee
 - D. Table Food Farmers have increased the price of their products due to increased production cost. The farmers asked if there are programs or funding opportunities to address this growing concern.
 1. MDEM continues to work on the risk analysis portion, and will meet with the MD Food Bank
 - E. Shared Links for Review:
 1. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2022/06/01/us-da-announces-framework-shoring-food-supply-chain-and-transforming>
 2. <https://www.mdfoodclimatevoters.org/>
 - F. Free summer meals will be available again this summer for kids 18 and under. A map of sites where meals are available is at mdsummermeals.org.
 - G. White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health
<https://health.gov/our-work/nutrition-physical-activity/white-house-conference-hunger-nutrition-and-health>

