



Meeting Minutes
Food Policy Advisory Board
Friday, March 6th, 2020, 8:00AM – 9:30AM
107 N. Nevada Ave, CSprings CO, 80903
Academy Room; 1st floor or basement of City Hall

In attendance:

- Carly H
- Megan H
- Sean S
- Beth A
- Zac C
- Ellen JF
- Guest: Brandon Wilson (from El Paso County)
- Guest: Aubrey D

8:06AM: Call to Order

8:09AM: Public Comment/Board Member Comment

- Brandon Wilson from the county- trying to figure out who would be the best county representative from the county to be in attendance.

8:11AM: Current Issues –

1. Megan - Morgan is not able to be here. City is in the process of re-writing Chapter 7 of the city code.
2. Colorado Springs Chapter 7 – Review Working Session Document with Morgan
 - a. Address Changes/Additions/Edits
 - b. Creating both a revised water ordinance & Urban Agriculture Zone Ordinance to protect community food production in times of drought.
 - i. Morgan's wanting us to define what urban farming is, if we are going to make an urban farming agriculture zone.
 - ii. [Here is a list of urban ag. policies](#)
 - iii. Zac will ask Jill about CS Utilities benefits for an urban ag zone & more lax water restrictions for urban ag. Ask her about Ord. 19-99
 - iv. Zac- do we want to have stakeholder representation to comment on urban ag., specifically from regional building?
 - 2 Beth- Morgan says that having community groups that are affected by this policy.
 - v. Ellen will compile a list of various community groups/organizations that could support an ordinance.
 - 2 Ideas: Healthy community collaborative, Downtown partnership, RISE coalition, SIP, community gardens, CSFR, Bear Creek Garden, Westside Community Garden, Pikes Peak Permaculture, CONO, etc.
 - vi. Framing the narrative around community food security.

- c. Markets: could we implement percentages of sales that have to be from a local producer?
 - i. Carly- we'd have to come up with a definition of what is a local producer. Do we have enough Colorado-grown to support a market here? (Yes)
 - ii. Sean- at many markets, there are ethical codes around what vendors are allowed to participate. This includes 'know your farmer' best practices.
 - 2 Aubrey- Does the chamber do this?
 - a. Carly- Dont think so.
 - iii. Megan- what code could we suggest that includes a statement around requiring CO-grown product?
 - iv. Aubrey- Is there a storm water protection plan argument based on increases in urban ag use.
- d. Action Items for April
 - i. Zac will ask Jill about CS Utilities benefits for an urban ag zone & more lax water restrictions for urban ag. Ask her about Ord. 19-99
 - ii. Ellen will compile a list of various community groups/organizations that could support an ordinance.
 - 2 Ideas: Healthy community collaborative, Downtown partnership, RISE coalition, SIP, community gardens, CSFR, Bear Creek Garden, Westside Community Garden, Pikes Peak Permaculture, CONO, etc.
 - iii. Beth & Sean will work on defining urban agriculture & start working on ordinance language

9:20AM: Final Public Comment/Board Member Comments

9:25AM: Administrative Issues: Interviews – TODAY at 9:30AM

9:30AM: Adjournment – Next Meeting: April 3rd, 2020

May Meeting – Megan will not be able to attend

"In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the City of Colorado Springs will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or reasonable accommodation to participate in this program should make the request as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event".

WORKING GROUPS:

Urban Agriculture (Backyard Farming and Land Use:

DEFINE: The urban farm and homesteading group will focus on defending and expanding the rights of homesteaders in this city through policy identification and policy change.

Food Literacy: Sean

DEFINE: The literacy group focuses mainly on education. They promote nutrition, local food, and cooking skills through celebratory event and educational campaigns.

Rural Policy:

DEFINE: The rural policy group is the main advocate for rural farmers and bridges the physical distance between rural and urban in order to promote the benefits of rural production in our city.

-Identifies the benefits of rural farming to our city, bridging the physical and communication barrier between rural farmers and urbanites.

-Connects with rural farmers to learn about policy challenges and barriers they are facing.

Community Retail/Economic Growth: Emily

DEFINE: The community retail group focuses on promoting and enabling local procurement in our city.

-Identifies policy, bureaucratic, and educational barriers that inhibit retail of local foods from the perspective of restauranteers, farmer's markets, local grocery stores, etc.

-Researches procurement in other cities to develop a guiding model for our city.

Communication/Media:

DEFINE: The communication/media group works with all other subcommittees to help keep FPAB and the initiatives in city and county radar.

-Keeps up steady communication with other subcommittees about the current projects and work that is being done.

Policy Brief: Purpose - A policy brief presents a concise summary of information that can help readers understand, and likely make decisions about, government policies. Policy briefs may give objective summaries of relevant research, suggest possible policy options, or go even further and argue for particular courses of action.

Policy Brief: Format –

- **Title:** A good title quickly communicates the contents of the brief in a memorable way.
- **Executive Summary:** This section is often one to two paragraphs long; it includes an overview of the problem and the proposed policy action.
- **Context or Scope of Problem:** This section communicates the importance of the problem and aims to convince the reader of the necessity of policy action.
- **Policy Alternatives:** This section discusses the current policy approach and explains proposed options. It should be fair and accurate while convincing the reader why the policy action proposed in the brief is the most desirable.
- **Policy Recommendations:** This section contains the most detailed explanation of the concrete steps to be taken to address the policy issue.
- **Appendices:** If some readers might need further support in order to accept your argument but doing so in the brief itself might derail the conversation for other readers, you might include the extra information in an appendix.
- **Consulted or Recommended Sources:** These should be reliable sources that you have used throughout your brief to guide your policy discussion and recommendations Erika- City Council work sessions- <https://coloradosprings.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Megan- City Council meetings- <https://coloradosprings.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>
Sean- El Paso County Commissioner activity <http://74.208.113.192:8080/ams/elpaso>
Beth- Parks projects and initiatives/ upcoming master planning activities etc.
Zac – Planning Commission - <https://coloradosprings.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Possible Future Briefs:

Enhancing local food production
Award's farmers markets

Next Policy Briefs: zoning codes in residential areas