



February 2024

Food Policy Council of Buffalo and Erie County

Date:	February 28, 2024			
Time:	4PM-5PM			
Location:	In person on the 4 th Floor of the Lincoln Building, 110 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14203			
Attendance:	Appointed Members:		Stakeholder Members:	
	P	Sarah Gatti (Chair)	P	Michelle Scott (Vice Chair)
	P	Rob Free (Treasurer)	P	Cooper Rohan
	P	Danielle Rovillo	A	Elias Martinez
	A	Jim Strusienski	E	Joseph Kurtz
	E	Laura Corrin	E	Lisa Neff
	A	Samendy Brice	E	Mallory Hohl
	E	Thomas Baines	E	Marla Guarino
	FPC Coordinator:		P	Mayda Pozantides
	P	Colette McDonald	E	Sashti Balasundaram
Quorum Present?			No	

Agenda		
Time	Item	Minutes
4:00-4:05	Welcome: 1. Approval of January 2024 Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No quorum, cannot pass.
4:05-4:10	Officer Updates: 1. Updated Bylaws Streamlined and made more consistent with other County board/committee/council bylaws. Cannot vote to adopt this month because of lack of quorum, but intend to do so next month. 2. FPC 2024 Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bylaws will be sent out to all FPC members to be reviewed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Members will vote them into effect at the next FPC meeting on March 27. • FPC 2024 Goals Document: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The 2024 Goals were presented. The FPC will be working on these goals throughout the year. ○ Aside from objectives that clearly relate to another standing committee/working



		<p>group, i.e. Emergency Food, the objectives will be primarily addressed by the Action Planning Committee, Chaired by Sarah Gatti.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moving forward, the Action Planning Committee will be more flexible to bring on different members as needed to best support the objectives being prioritized based on the timeline. ○ Double-Up Food Bucks – The Rapid Response Protocol will be used to authorize the FPC to sign on to Letter of Support by March 1st
4:15–4:20	<p>Erie County Updates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food Policy Summit Update 2. Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan Update 3. Downtown Buffalo County Market Project Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Policy Summit: May 21, 2024: Erie County Department of Environment and Planning, Office of Health Equity, Rural Outreach Center, Cornell Cooperative Extension, WNY Foundation, and UB Food Lab are putting on a Food Policy Summit geared towards local government officials (i.e., planning and zoning boards), staff planners, and elected officials, to explain food systems 101 and how they can be implemented into their work. Events may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UB Food Lab Presentation:



		<p>Overview of food systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Action planning sessions○ Lunch at Providence Farm Collective○ FPC Members are welcome/encouraged to attend - stay tuned for more info <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Agriculture & Farmland Protection Plan Update:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Current plan is 10 years old○ There will be opportunities for public comment○ Consultant working on the plan will look to interview FPC members<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ More info to come from Sarah Gatti.● Downtown Buffalo County Market Project Update:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Buffalo Place is undertaking a study of their Downtown Buffalo Country Market.○ Struggling due to the lack of people working downtown (2020-present) and construction on Main Street.○ Allison Dehonney is working with Buffalo Place's project consultant, the Hallmark Farm and would like to convene a focus group with FPC members to gain insight on the convenience and preferences of those in the
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		<p>food system that would create a successful market.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Insights from members shared at FPC Meeting: Hours/transport of produce was a hurdle and competing food events.
4:25–4:30	<p>Committees/Working Groups: Please review the Committee/Working Group report that was sent out with the agenda for updates.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater Buffalo Urban Growers (GBUG) will be hosting a soil screening event on Saturday, April 20th from 10am-1pm and will share more details soon. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Location TBD • Youth Working Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We need a chair to keep the YWG from being defunct. A decision on this Group will be made next month.
4:30–4:50	<p>Standing Items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strategic Plan 2. Local Food Action Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update for the Strategic Plan/Local Food Action Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Priority moving forward will be focusing on the FPC 2024 Goals
4:50-4:55	<p>New Business:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fellowship Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NYS Public Health Fellowship is being sunsetted in June. The Office of Health Equity was approached by the Fellowship to keep Colette on for an additional 2 years as part of a limited extension of the program. • NYF4NYF Grant Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On behalf of the FPC, Colette submitted a grant proposal



		<p>for the New York Food for New York Families Round 2 Competitive Grant RFP that outlines the FPC 2024 Goals that directly relate to the program goals detailed in the RFP. If awarded, this grant would also fund an FPC Coordinator position.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If both the Fellowship and the grant are awarded, potential options could include bringing on another person to help with the grant or the FPC administrative tasks. ○ In addition, the grant would be used to fund a program, Farm to Families, that would purchase produce boxes from FreshFix to be delivered to 400 families/week for 52 weeks by distributing the boxes at childcare facilities in no income, low income, and ALICE (asset limited, income constrained, employed) communities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grant recipients will be notified in May 2024.
4:55-5:00	Other Business:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving forward all full FPC meetings will be in-person on the 4th Floor of the Lincoln Building aside from the follow meeting dates/locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ April 24, 2024: Delavan-Grider Community Center ○ July 31, 2024: Hayes Hall - UB Campus



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ August 28, 2024: Social Event, TBD ○ October 30, 2024: Sahlen Field ● Groundwork Market Garden: Mayda Pozantides shared that they are hosting their 3rd Annual Community Event/Plant Sale on Saturday, May 11th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Opportunity for FPC to table the event ○ Michelle Scott to post on the 211 website ○ Danielle Rovillo expressed that the Office of Health Equity would also be interested in promoting it ● Erie Grown Passport Program: Relaunching for Maple Fest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update for the program: People can now get points for attending agricultural events in Erie County (i.e. Agriculture Discovery Center at the Erie County Fair, Maple Fest, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If anyone needs promotional materials, reach out to Sarah Gatti.
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February 2024 Motion Log			
Motion	Passed (Y/N)	Implementation:	Brought to Motion/Seconded:
No quorum present; no motions could be made.			

February 2024 Action Log				
Owner:	Action:	Carry-Over Item:	Due Date:	Date Completed:



CM	Move "Approve Jan 2024 Meeting Minutes" to March FPC Agenda		3/20	
CM	Send out updated Bylaws to all FPC members.		3/20	
CM	Update meeting invites to reflect in-person location		3/20	3/4
SG	FPC to sign on to Double-Up Food Bucks Letter of Support by March 1st		3/1	3/1
FPC Members	If anyone is interested in chairing the Youth Working Group, please reach out to Colette.McDonald@erie.gov .		3/27	