



May 2024

Food Policy Council of Buffalo and Erie County

Date:	May 29, 2024			
Time:	4PM-5PM			
Location:	In person at the Rath Building - 10 th Floor Conference Room			
Attendance:	Appointed Members:		Stakeholder Members:	
	P	Sarah Gatti (Chair)	E	Michelle Scott (Vice Chair)
	P	Rob Free (Treasurer)	E	Cooper Rohan
	P	Danielle Rovillo (Co. Rep.)	P	Elias Martinez
	P	Betsy Andersen	P	Lisa Neff
	P	Eric Tower	E	Mallory Hohl
	E	Laura Corrin	P	Marla Guarino
	P	Samendy Brice	A	Mayda Pozantides
	P	Thomas Baines	FPC Coordinator	
			P	Colette McDonald
	Quorum Present?		Yes	
Agenda				
	Item		Minutes	
Welcome:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introductions 2. Approval of March 2024 Meeting Minutes 		<p>The FPC welcomed the newest appointed member, Betsy Andersen, from Erie County Senior Services to the Council. Betsy will be replacing Jim Strusienski.</p> <p>The March 2024 Meeting Minutes were approved.</p>	
Officer Updates:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conflict of Interest Confidentiality Discussion 2. Membership Update 		<p>Conflict of Interest Confidentiality Overview: A reminder that information discussed during FPC and subcommittee meetings is confidential. Members are asked to ensure that information is not prematurely shared.</p> <p>Membership Update: The FPC received 10 applications during the recruitment campaign. The applicants will be reviewed by the Governance Committee on May 30th and a short list of candidates will be provided to</p>	



	<p>the full FPC prior to the June 26 FPC meeting. Applicants will be discussed and voted on at the June 26 FPC meeting and onboarded July 1, 2024.</p>
<p>Erie County Updates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan Survey2. Food Systems Summit Recap	<p>Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan Survey: Please use this link to access the survey if you have not taken it yet. <u>The survey will close by the end of the day Friday, 5/31.</u></p> <p>Food Systems Summit Recap: There were 63 attendees, representing 16 different municipalities within Erie County. The feedback has been very positive and there is a desire for additional municipal food systems training sessions and an annual local food summit. The FPC discussed how additional sessions could build off the general knowledge gained from this summit and be more specific to help guide local policy.</p> <p>Data sheets including custom food systems maps for each municipality are being created to be shared with all municipalities in Erie County.</p>
<p>Committees/Working Groups: Please review the Committee/Working Group report that was sent out with the agenda for updates.</p>	<p>The FPC discussed reactivating the Procurement Working Group. The initial goals of this group will be to look into County Procurement and how it can be made more equitable and sustainable. Actions to reactivate this group include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Declaring a Chair• Colette McDonald will schedule a meeting time with interested members<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ If you are interested in joining the reactivated Procurement Working Group, please reach out to



	<p style="text-align: right;">Colette.McDonald@erie.gov</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Gatti will attend the first meeting to review the history of the Procurement Working Group
<p>Standing Items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FPC 2024 Goals Update 	<p>Action Planning Committee (APC) Update: This month, the APC met with Providence Farm Collective and will be continuing to work on Task 2A ("Farm Operation" definition to be more inclusive of collective farms). Actions that they will be taking moving forward include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting with Chester Agricultural Center (Orange County, NY) who have been experiencing similar challenges • Researching the history behind the NYS Ag & Markets "Farm Operation" definition – when it was created, why it was created, and by whom. <p>Emergency Food Working Group Update: This month, the EFWG shared a memo with the Deputy County Executive and other Erie County department heads that included a list of suggested items for the Emergency Food Boxes (blizzard boxes) that will be prepared and stored by the County. This action resolves Task 1C of the 2024 FPC Goals!</p>
<p>New Business:</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Other Business:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PhD Student Research 	<p>Sarah Gatti updated the FPC on the opportunity to be involved with a PhD Student from Surrey, Haley Parzonko. Her research focuses on the different designs and strategies of stakeholder participation and the stakeholder experience of participatory processes, with specific attention to the farming community. Part of the overall aim of the research is to produce knowledge that can help Food Policy Networks improve their</p>



	<p>participatory processes and better address some of the challenges regarding participation and inclusion, especially with regard to farming communities.</p> <p>Haley will be conducting interviews with interested FPC members this summer and attending FPC/subcommittee meetings.</p>
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May 2024 Motion Log

Motion	Passed:	Implementation:	Brought to Motion/Seconded:
Approval of March 2024 Meeting Minutes	Yes		Motion - DR 2 nd – LN
Adjourn Meeting	Yes		Motion - MG 2 nd – RF

May 2024 Action Log

Owner:	Action:	Due Date:	Date Completed:
All FPC Members	If interested in joining the reactivated Procurement Working Group, please reach out to Colette.McDonald@erie.gov	6/19	
CM	Schedule a meeting for the Procurement Working Group	6/19	
All FPC Members	Complete the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan Survey – Please use this link to access the survey if you have not taken it yet	5/31	