Food Policy Council of Buffalo and Erie County

Tri-Main Center
2495 Main Street, Buffalo, 14214 | Lower-Level Conference Room
May 27, 2026 · 4:00-5:00pm

Meeting Minutes

Members Attending: Eric Tower, Mallory Hohl, Mayda Pozantides, Danielle Rovillo, Sarah Gatti, Laura Corrin, Rob Free

Guests: Madison Marquardt, Beth Gosch

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

2. **Treasurer Update**
   Rob Free reported no change in the balance since the April meeting.

3. **Erie County Updates**
   a. **Find Fresh Erie**
      Danielle Rovillo shared that the project had been modified to comply with amended program guidelines. The project will no longer contain a "Friends of the Market" piece and will instead focus on direct mailings promoting fresh food to those in underserved areas.
   b. **Food Systems Assessment**
      Sarah Gatti summarized the final presentation held earlier in May and stated that the final report would be provided to members when available.

4. **Partner Organization Updates**

Beth Gosch of the WNY Foundation provided an overview of their work, including a recent strategic plan update, the Food for Thought program, and their general focus on food systems capacity building work. Laura Corrin shared that the grant for her program was not renewed. Ms. Corrin will be at the Wellness Fair held by Erie1 BOCES on July 2. Mallory Hohl reminded the Council that Urban Farm Day is August 15. Ms. Corrin reminded the Council that the food systems focused Slow Roll is June 1.

Mayda Pozantides and Ms. Hohl provided an update from the NYS Food Policy Council group noting they are planning a fall convening in Saratoga Springs.

Ms. Pozantides provided an update about the Good Food Buffalo Coalition noting their current focus is communicating with the City of Buffalo regarding an Office of Urban Agriculture and Food Systems.

5. **New Business**
   a. **Food Systems Awards**
      Ms. Gatti shared that a Food Systems Award program is being launched and asked that anyone interested in the process joining an awards standing committee. Ms. Hohl, Ms. Pozantides, and Ms. Rovillo volunteered for the standing committee.

   b. **Food Systems Resource Fair**
      Ms. Gatti shared that the food summit would be held as a food systems resource fair in late September at Sahlen Field. Partner organizations will be invited to table and there will be opportunities to connect and network. The intended audience is municipal officials. At the suggestion of Ms. Corrin, the Action Planning Committee will act as the planning committee.

6. **Other Business**

7. **Adjournment**
   The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.