

**Working Group Name: Food****Meeting Date: Tuesday January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012****Meeting Location: Room 1107 /441 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW (1 Judiciary Square)****Attendees:**

Laine Cidlowski, facilitator	Fern Johnson-Clarke, facilitator	
Kelly Melsted, facilitator	Jeff Mills	Chris Bradshaw
Brenda Estrella	Alex Trutko	Eileen Naples
Steve Seuser	Phyllis Palmer	Dr. Calvin Lewis
Jason Freser	Chris Bohner	Adam Siegez
Abigail Lundy	Jordan Clough	Laurel Heile
Madeline Hall	Jeffrey Catts	Laura Pillsbury
Brenton Ling	John Caudle III	Xavier Brown
Stephen Alexander	Drew Newman	Karen Camphlin
Jeremiah	Sarah McKinley	Eric Siegel
Kafia Anderson-Hall	Brian Rodgers	Alec Brown
John Huennekens	Deniz Bilgen	

**Main Points/Discussion****KNOWLEDGE → Education and Exposure****GOALS**

- Build skilled workforce

**LONG TERM GOALS**

- Create better informed food decision makers at household, government and institutional levels
  - Assess baseline awareness and establish future benchmarks
- Develop and promote food production, preparation and distribution skill sets

**ACTIONS**

- DC Food Finder expanded
- Info center for new farmers: urban ag. Extension
- Food transparency
  - Calorie content of fast food/restaurants
  - Production source
- Explore urban agriculture models
  - Edible scape, greenhouses, perennial cropping, vertical growing

- Class of urban foraging
- Civilian cooking corps/food prep training
- Rehab high school greenhouses and use for education, training, education
- Target education programming to facilities → libraries, religious organizations, prisons, city parks, hospitals, civic associations, DDOT for streetscaping, grocery vendors
- Educate city officials (ex. Resources for renovating public establishments)
- PSA campaign for public transportation
  - Print PSAs
  - Farmers markets
  - Association with metro
  - Bus hubs
- Alternative diet demonstrations (vegan, vegetarian, raw vegan)
- Coordinate NGOs who facilitate food production
  - Convene a Food Policy Council and resource hub
- “Meet people where they are at”

#### SHORT TERM ACTIONS

- Framework for health education in DCPS
- Curriculum for green roof production
- Training in food waste and compost
- Minor/major certification in UDC and other universities
- Community kitchen cooking classes for instruction – culinary / agriculture education
- DC Council Rules on food calorie counts
- Expansion of master gardener program → mentorship and outreach to new audiences
- 5 public school gardens
- Sustainable agriculture publication/media
- Demonstration garden → meal nutrition
- Develop targeted education curriculum → schools, youth, expecting moms,

#### LONG TERM ACTIONS

- Holistic health education
- Food/waste disposal education
- UDC leader in food/agriculture education and certification
- Increase the number of public cooking facilities
- Sellable/commercial products from DC farmers
- Increase in preservation industries
- Public display of nutritional info
- DCPS gardener community service

- Sustainability curriculum

**VALUE → Choose Healthy Food**

- Expand double moneys in farmers markets (of access)
- Public assistance/single info source for services to low income populations
- Employment Opportunities

**SHORT**

- Cooke nutrition education for WIC
- Permits for mobile markets (reserved spaces)
- Small pop up operations
- DOES job opportunities
- Retail market sales and education

**LONG**

- Distribution reflecting economy of scale

**ACCESS → Geographic, Cultural and Economic****ACTIONS**

- DC market maker: distributors to consumers: connect farmers to consumers through web-based forum
- DC food finders – find sources of food in community
- Vendors information on how to set up, zoning regulations, hours of operation
- Teach kids about food as gateway to parents buying patterns
- Use policy regulation for “policy council” to access food
- Cost comparison (apple v. processed item)
- Government incentives for large grocers to locate in food deserts
- Non-profit working with publically funded educational institutions to establish trade/educational certificate, etc.
- Reduce the filing/LLC requirement for local food upstarts and businesses
- Update regulations to reflect current business types (i.e. social business)
- Reform Commerical Drivers License requirements
- Clearinghouse resources of information for available commercial kitchens for upstart food businesses to use
- Improve relationship between food upstarts and DC bureaucracy
- Pop up markets at metros and churches, community rec. centers
- Provide outlets (churches) for local CSA pickups
- Utilize UDC for establishing processes and measuring sticks to work with cooperative extension programs

- Certification/seal of approval → Who can provide this?
- Utilize existing private industry standards
- Making soil health info available to public
- Survey of production and use of food existing from DC community gardens
- Usable land space survey/building space survey
- Survey of current food education/certification programs
- Database of existing CSAs in DC
- Co-op formation – emerging arts collective for infor
- Increase money available for grants and funding for databases
- Identify food deserts/qualifications

## GOALS

- Expand access to double dollars and farmers markets
- Build on Healthy Schools Act
- Local farms – connect to low-income communities
- Community gardens: negative excess harvest going to waste (gleaning)
- Access to basic food supplies and cooking skills
- Prioritize community gardens in lower income and elderly neighborhoods where people have more time
- Ditto for farmers markets and expand subsidies
- Design growing spaces that are accessible to wheelchairs and people with other disabilities
- Establish numeric goals and timelines to eliminate food security in DC  
Use libraries or other buildings as infrastructures to distribute healthy food.
- ID community facilities for educational workshops, healthy food prep, new foods, etc.
- Produce locally XX% of DC food by 2015, XX% of DC food by 2020, XX% of DC food by 2025, etc.
- Produce XX% of DC food from DC by 2020
- Explore Home Ec. In high schools,,
- Economic Access: Establish goals for DC residents having access to food:
  - XX% by 2015, XX% by 2020, 100% by 2030, (DC Hunger Solutions data?)
- Geographic Access: Reduce food deserts for DC residents: XX% by 2015, XX% by 2020, etc.
- Increasing the amount of usable soil in the district

## COMMUNITY ACTIVATION

- Connect with local gardeners

- Expand all community gardens while targeting low income neighborhoods first
- Celebrate DC food culture
- Visually inspiring demonstration

GOAL: MARKETING

ACTIONS

- DC market maker- targeted
- Messaging – coordinated – sell idea of urban agriculture
- Educational signage
- Leverage press and other channels

GOAL: Community Building

ACTIONS

- Events – block parties – food culture
- Neighborly outreach
- Meetings
- Meet your farmer program
- Neighborhood advocates

SHORT TERM GOAL: Transition

POSSIBLE ACTIONS:

- Temporary measures – pilot programs in lieu of permanent
- License to fail: guerilla gardening
- Food business/ agriculture incubator
- DC Grey market
- Connect to health outreach programs or other existing programs (in hospitals for example)
- Leverage unique aspects of DC – mail, political, Smithsonian, etc.
- DC food history
- Art community and food community
- Wall of Fame – visitors, presidents
- Pop up landscapes, temporary food installations
- Gardens in odd places
- Roof analysis map
- Roof space useable space broker
- Investigate methods of soil remediation
- Soil remediation in select locations

SHORT TERM GOALS

- Creation of DC food website/community plan around marketing
- Pilot soil remediation plots
- Ask DC government to partner with food corporations
- Engage community celebratory events

#### LONG TERM GOALS

- Establishing plans to ensure longevity of urban agriculture campaign

#### ACTIONS

- Reach out to international urban agriculture groups
- Quarterly events that highlight urban agriculture in DC
- Artist collaboration around food and urban agriculture (i.e. photography, urban landscapes, popups, etc.)

### **INTEGRATE → Built on Existing Efforts**

#### GOALS

- More community gardens across all Wards
- Streamlined permitting
- Build on cultural events in DC
- Know the food system policy
- Vertical farms and demonstration grants over 5 to 10 years
- DOES, DHCD, DCRA, DRES DOH and other agencies need to better coordinate permitting
- Orchards and permaculture
- Senior transportation and food circulator
- Integrate institutional purchasing, i.e. Philadelphia day care center, farm tours, commercial farm tour, bike tours
- Streamlined process, ex. Baltimore
- Land trust
- Intergenerational educational training
- Researching best practices and disseminating applicability
- Tool share program
- Inter-agency collaboration and volunteer network and DC cares

#### ACTIONS

- Education of public
- Job availability
- License agreement
- Streamline process to streamline land

- Use database system such as space finder by cultural development corporation
- DCPR, WPP, Casey Trees work to plant fruit, nut trees and other shrubs over 3 to 5 years
- Maintenance programs and garden sitting
- Educate container gardening
- Training food workers and farmers → DCCK, DOL and other examples
- DC Compost Cab and other models can participate through
  - Building focus instead of individuals
  - Building workforce to scale
- Explore other city's models
- Compost site in one year
- Create a compost plan (6 to 9 months)
- Implement compost plan (12 to 18 months)
- DPW potential coordination for pickup OR private enterprise
  
- List of spaces; process to ID spaces in collaboration with DC gov. and residents (one year)
- Statute of limitations that allows residents to stay if they've been there for XX years
- DC school yards and DC NFT integrate with others

**Next Steps:** Analyze, organize and finalize recommended goals and actions.

**Open Questions:** ?

**Date for next meeting:**

**Location for next meeting:**

**Questions? Email [sustainable.food@dc.gov](mailto:sustainable.food@dc.gov)**

**If you need to reach a Sustainable DC team member after hours, please call Laine Cidlowski at 202.442.8809.**

**Glossary** (to include any terms that are WG topic specific and not readily known to the public):

**Resources** (to include any books/websites that would be good for reference):