

# CHAMPAIGN COUNTY LOCAL FOODS POLICY COUNCIL

## MINUTES

OCTOBER 23, 2013, 5:45 P.M.  
BROOKENS ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER  
JENNIFER PUTMAN ROOM

Present: Mel Farrell; Becky Roach; Cathe Capel; Steve Herriott; Maya Bauer; Tod Satterthwaite; Brad Uken; Chris Henning—

1. Call to Order—5:45 pm
2. Additions/Corrections to the Agenda—Maya will show the Food Safety Modernization Act show. Add Becky as “Present”. Question as to when the December meeting would be. It’s the only one, at which we would like the Advisory Board to attend. Resolved and no adjustment to minutes are necessary.
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Public Participation
5. Old Business
  - a. Guest Commentary progress—no report
  - b. Rantoul Food Hub report—Brad mentioned that working groups are just getting started. Groups’ activities were detailed at last month’s meeting. He talked more about contracts and length of contract; soil issues; efforts to get Veteran’s involved as potential farmer recruits [Soldiers to Farmers]. Priorities from each group will be reported to the larger executive committee in the coming weeks.
  - c. Dining Services/local food report—UofI Dining Services is looking into getting SPE Certification. Idea from a NYC restaurant “Rouge Tomate”. “Health Through Food”. Source/Preparation/Balance in menus. “Taste Matters”. Has to be a “plated” meal. Sending recipes to the organization for potential certification, for at least a few dishes at every meal.
  - d. Advisory Board Progress
    - i. Potential Board meeting date?—January might be most feasible, as Tod has been unable to get the invitations out, etc. Problem: we might have to go through the County Board to approve an Advisory Board. Rather than

calling them a formal board, just invite them to a discussion about our priorities and direction and to ask their opinions, advice. January 22 would be the best date for this community discussion [We should at least give the event a name].

- ii. Invitations to prospective members—just send out invitations to people we'd really like to see at this community meeting.
6. New Business—In November the only meeting will be November 13. In December, the only meeting will be December 11.
  7. Legislative Update—Food Safety Modernization Act, public comment till Nov. 15. Could pose a problem for small farmers. We'll see if a form letter of support is available or if we could join other groups in a larger commentary on exemptions based on size. Maya and Brad will investigate and report back at next meeting. Mention of getting Champaign Co. added to the counties on board with the HB 1037 Farmland Preservation Act. Right now it's just collar counties in the north and southwest. Essentially it's a property tax levy. Might be difficult to get it passed in our county. Discussion of John Hall's proposal will be on the next meeting's agenda. "Eat Local/Buy Illinois" passed. Young Farmer's Tax Credit Bill back to committee.
  8. Announcements—Local Food Summit upcoming in Bloomington on Nov. 12. ACRES confab in December. Specialty Growers Conference in January in Springfield.
  9. Adjourn—6:50pm