



COLORADO FOOD SYSTEMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Colorado Food Systems Advisory Council
Wednesday, November 15th, 10:30am-12:30pm
Colorado Department of Agriculture, 305 Interlocken Parkway, Broomfield, CO 80021

Present: Tom Parks (Chair, member), Chris Wiseman (member), Jody Beck (member), Meigan Lovelace (member), Shaina Knight (guest), Joyce Kelly (member), Tracy Miller (member), Sandy Stenmark (member), Jon Clinthorne (member), Dawn Thilmamy (member), Tom Parks (member), Becca Jablonski (staff), Libby Christensen (guest), Wendy Peter Moschetti (member), Joel McClurg (member)

Meeting Minutes

1. Introductions
 - a. If you're new and need an updated bio please send to Becca so we can put it up on the website.
2. Sunset review approved and now going to General Assembly
 - a. Working with Ellen Graham @ DORA on the sunset review process, passed out draft sunset bill draft (11/8/2017)
 - b. Request to have the annual report for COFSAC as well as the Executive Summary of Blueprint ready before the Bill goes forward to the General Assembly.
3. Open Member Seats
 - a. No open seats, but two seats that do not regularly have someone attend – Rural Development Seat (currently Trudy Kareus) and Office of Economic Security, Department of Human Services (currently Julie Kerksick who lives out of state).

- Dawn/Becca will follow up with new USDA RD Colorado State Director; Wendy/Tracy will follow up with DHS
 - b. Chris Wiseman will be leaving CDA in 15 days. Request from COFSAC to have Tom Lipetzky replace him from CDA.
4. Request for donations to support COSAC website
- a. Request that each member request \$250 from each organization to support the COFSAC website.
5. Context Setting (to help us move forward)
- a. Review what COFSAC has accomplished since 2010 – Wendy
 - Initially, Livewell paid for Wendy to provide staffing and coordination of COFSAC.
 - COFSAC did not have a clear plan/agenda so did a statewide listening session tour. Also, a full day strategic planning session with members. From those processes, agreed on two primary goals:
 - 5.a..1. Healthy Food Access (12 point plan on website)
 - 5.a..2. Regional Economic Development
 - But, never clear for COFSAC about what its role was as an advisory body. So, gained more clarity and decided that its role was to advise the state on work vis-à-vis food systems.
 - Blip in March 2012 – Chair and Vice Chair both retired, Wendy (staff at the time) went on maternity leave.
 - Decided to regroup and focus on its charge: *Advance recommendations that strengthen healthy food access for all through Colorado agriculture and local food systems and economies.*
 - 5.a..1. Started to work on issue briefs. Commitment to focus on a few issue briefs a year – focus on state of the state, but also on the role of the state in advancing recommendations.
 - 5.a..2. Many successes following these issue briefs – funding at DHS, CSU, etc. Demonstrated what can happen in agencies if they are a part of this process. Many successes in

the healthy eating/food security space, as well as in food safety.

- 5.a..3. There used to be an opportunity to review food systems legislation to provide recommendations. And then COFSAC could put recommendations in their annual report – including things to consider.

b. Review of intersecting organizations and agencies – Meighen

- Want to think more strategically about the resources that each seat brings to the table. When we think about how we're advising, we have the ability to advise based on our Department and using the Tool of the Colorado Blueprint – each of us (and our agencies/affiliations) can bring forward a memo on recommendations.

- 5.b..1. Ask: once we have the executive summary from the Blueprint, draft a memo about recommendations to our individual organizations/agencies based on the charge of COFSAC and action items of the Blueprint.

c. 2018 legislative effort - Wendy

- Discussion about interest from the group in commenting on legislation.

- 5.c..1. How would COFSAC stay on top of this when things move so quickly?

- 5.c..2. Potential for LiveWell to provide support.

- Continuing the bill that was introduced (and not successful) last year – led by LiveWell

- 5.c..1. Framing still around having a person to move forward and implement food systems activities – focus on CO Blueprint, leveraging Federal dollars to support healthy food access, support for farm to school (or institution).

- 5.c..2. Farm to School Task Force could still be merged with COFSAC, but framed differently from last year, membership may be smaller and tighter.

- 5.c..3. Unclear if Durant is going to lead this bill.

5.c..3.a. Suggestion to get someone from the Ag Committee to lead bill (someone from a smaller community), also suggestion to focus on local foods rather than specialty crops.

5.c..4. Can we request that someone from this council sit on the legislative ag council? Need to petition on.

5.c..4.a. Meighen/Joel will organize monthly legislative updates.

6. Blueprint wrap-up – Dawn

a. Dawn provided a ppt update on where CSU is with the Blueprint

- Goal to discuss Blueprint adoption and next steps for COFSAC.
- Have discussed opportunities for other partners to get specific reports on action items/adoption. Already have done with City/County of Denver, and moving ahead with Extension, CSU College of Ag, and the Ag Experiment Station. And, asked CDA to let us know if/how they would like this info. Does LiveWell want to have this discussion? Other COFSAC member orgs?
- Discussion about how COFSAC can work to support action items and feedback to each of the regions.

6.a..1. Becca will send out google form to understand where COFSAC members will be attending meetings this winter and if there is a possibility to provide information on the Blueprint. Also, Becca and Libby will be going around the state to disseminate information, it would be great to have COFSAC members support this outreach.

b. Update on CO Blueprint to End Hunger

c. Review crosscutting issues in the Blueprint and select 3 ‘winnable goals’ that could be owned by COFSAC that have statewide implications.

- Potential ideas:

6.c..1. Healthy Food Innovations (product opportunities)

6.c..2. Economic impact assessment of food assistance

6.c..3. Open space taxes and farmland preservation

6.c..4. State inspections of livestock

6.c..5. Other things brought up at the meeting:

6.c..5.a.i. Improve access to capital for ag and food firms, flexible funding and financing, Buying healthy food and land

6.c..5.a.ii. Support state level initiatives that leverage federal \$s, SNAP, Value Added, Conservation Title, Rural Infrastructure

6.c..5.a.iii. Assure regulatory environment – fair and effective, state inspection, cottage foods, noncompete, food donations

- Bring together cross cutting issues and priorities from COFSAC with ongoing activities within each organization. This group is not ‘advocating’ for any of these, the group is going to frame an issue, and then talk about the pros and cons of specific interventions.

7. February meeting homework – all members

a. Becca will set up Qualtrics survey with key issues that COFSAC could run with.

b. Each COFSAC member is going to respond to the survey by January 1, 2018 with things they are going to lead.

c. If your agency has a topic that it would like to lead, send that to Becca by January 1, 2018.

d. A committee including Tom, Meighen, Wendy, Sandy and Becca will digest the responses. For the February meeting, the committee will try to get the topic more specific.

- Joyce moved, Meighen seconded, all in favor.

e. Goal is one or two the end of December 2018

8. Next meeting – Tuesday, February 13th from 10:30am-12:30pm, Colorado Department of Agriculture, Broomfield

Reminder, The COFSAC charge is to:

1. Identify and use existing studies relevant to the food system.
2. Work with and develop relationships with other task forces, committees, and/or organizations pursuing similar objectives.
3. Develop recommendations that promote the building of a robust, resilient, and long-term local food economy.
4. Develop recommendations regarding hunger and food access.
5. Collaborate with local and regional food policy councils in the State.
6. Promote “Colorado Proud”.