

Knoxville-Knox County Food Policy Council Meeting Minutes

Date & Location: Wednesday, February 21, 2024; United Way of Greater Knoxville

Type of Meeting: Voting (Educational—no quorum)

Recorder: Brett Foster

Attending Appointed (Voting) Members Bolded names in attendance	Bruce Crabtree Laura Deubler Femeika Elliott Bailey Foster Brett Foster Sara Keel Marisa Moazen Jen Russomanno Rylan Thompson Lauren Woods Donna Wright
Attending Associated (Non-voting) Members Bolded names in attendance	Chris Battle Kat Bike Beth Brown Jasmine Bryant Adam Caraco Sarah DeWitt Nicole Gross Travis Henderson Juanita Jones Ross Jones Hailey Lewis Marissa McKeague Judith Pelot Porshia Pickett Charlotte Rodina Wade Seifert Marsha Spence Caesar Stair Erin Sweeney Sandra Wairimu Tiara-Lady Wilson
Other Attendees (all names listed were in attendance)	Kimberly Pettigrew—United Way Greater Knoxville Lia Bevins—CAC Beardsley Farm Liliana Burbano—UT Medical Center Khann Chov—United Way Greater Knoxville Mark Harmon—CAC Beardsley Farm Mary Clay Kline—Second Harvest Erica Lisowe—KCCGGA

	Devalle Muhammed—Muslim Community of Knoxville Kevin Murphy—TEAM Celeste Paula—Centro Hispano Tom Ruggles—Rooted East/KATU Lillie Sutton—KCDC AmeriCorp Nickolas Thompson—KCCGGA Sarah Torres—KCDC AmeriCorps
--	---

1.	Welcome and Introductions: Bailey Foster
2.	Approval of December Minutes: Bailey Foster No quorum of voting members
3.	Nominations Update: Kimberly Pettigrew <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City/County approved Laura Deubler and Donna Wright; will be recommending Femeika Elliott to take Ross Jones’ position.
4.	Policy Updates: Kimberly Pettigrew <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amazing win for summer EBT in 2024; Governor Lee has already announced it is just one year. Policy/advocacy group has been reactivated for summer EBT in 2025. • Legislation at state level—continuing to watch certain bills, but will Kimberly will continue to provide updates • Rapid farmland loss occurring in TN—incentivize individuals to use land trusts—Gov. allocated \$25 mil in budget to support farmland transfer • Femeika on hill today for advocacy of black maternal health—contact Kimberly if interested in this initiative/topic • AdvanceKnox: new comprehensive plan going before Planning Commission at March meeting (open for comments now)
5.	Organizational Updates: Bailey Foster <u>American Heart Association:</u> 3 more rounds of cold storage that they’ve secured—providing cold storage for KAPA in Cedar Bluff area; next round of funding is for faith-based organizations in a partnership with Second Harvest; Kids Cook with Heart is going well with Pilot—3 rd class is this Thursday <u>Battlefield Farms:</u> Work day at Paine Avenue this Saturday (Battlefield Farms)--9-12; Paine Ave. Garden has been renamed to Pastor Richard S. Brown, Jr. Community Garden—additional 64 beds there now (total of 100) <u>Center at Montgomery Village:</u> Final stages of choosing new director; seeing an increase in homeless community (trying to find more plastic, light-weight options for

	<p>those individuals); distributing more food than they have in years; working on partnership with KCDC for opening a store-based pantry</p> <p><u>Centro Hispano:</u> quarterly health fairs—last health fair offered over 2000 lbs. of food (partnered with Second Harvest); will be trying to provide food distribution at other events as well</p> <p><u>CAC Beardsley Farm:</u> seeds and plants incentives are available if there is a need; work day this weekend</p> <p><u>CAC Mobile Meals:</u> Food Distribution Coordinator resigned; new individual will be hired to team</p> <p><u>Community Schools:</u> grassroots effort to get input from ground up; currently in 14 Title I schools; all coordinators were trained on Monday; if there are any immediate needs, please contact coordinators</p> <p><u>KCDC:</u> March—community fairs starting again (open to non-profit partners); Section 8 survey is about to go out; First Creek at Austin, Phase 2 is set to open in March or April (waitlists are open now); Director of Development position is currently posted for individual with capital campaign experience</p> <p><u>Knox County Schools:</u> 25 additional CEP schools for total of 63; working with STEM Dept. on potential partnership with Flex Farms to use produce grown by students in school cafeterias</p> <p><u>Knoxville Botanical Gardens:</u> Tuesdays at 10 AM: preschool story time in gardens—can be guest reader in raised veggie gardens; contact Sarah if interested; Urban Agriculture Resiliency Plan—awarded a grant to partner with Little Chefs, Big Change/Shora Foundation to provide family style cooking classes to families for free</p> <p><u>Second Harvest:</u> Find a Food Pantry map on their website now; also listed out by county; pantry “bill of rights” created and feedback loop for any issues; mobile food pantry is now 3rd Wednesday of every month at Redemption Church (moved from Saturdays at Cherokee Health)</p> <p><u>United Way:</u> Community Food Security Retreat occurred in January—Food Security Committee will be finalizing visual and strategic planning elements; building web-based platform for data gathered over time</p>
6.	<p>The Year Ahead, Speaker and Field Trip Feedback: Bailey Foster</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bailey explained feedback process for group to express interest in ideas from Executive Committee • Next 3 meetings already planned: March—Adam Fritts (Community Schools strategy); April—Annual Retreat (FPC composition); May—Market Basket Study—Thrifty Food Plan (Dr. Spence and UT students) and Sandra Wairmu’s presentation on K-12 nutrition overview <p>Group Feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 Meeting Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Homeless Services: 12 votes ○ Urban Agriculture: 12 votes ○ Transforming Western (KCDC—Section 8): 11 votes ○ Transportation Roundtable: 11 votes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suggestion of KAT Reimagined

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Healthcare/Food as Medicine: 7 votes ○ Land Trusts/Land Conservation: 5 votes ○ Mental Health: 5 votes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suggestion of discussing alternative response options in Knox Co. ○ Gleaning, St. Andrews: 4 votes ○ UT Extension: 1 vote ○ Other suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CAC Food Distribution Programs: 2 votes ▪ New Ground Garden Update: 2 votes ▪ Community Health Council’s Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) ▪ More sidewalks/pedestrian friendly walkways to reach food pantries, libraries, etc. ● 2024 Field Trips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Food for Vols: 10 votes ○ Second Harvest Fresh Stop Pantry: 9 votes ○ Dream Center Farm: 7 votes ○ Other suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baptist Center at Western Heights (Pantry in Action): 5 votes ▪ KARM ▪ New Ground Gardens at Beardsley Farm
7.	Meeting Adjourned

Upcoming Meetings:

- March 20, 2024—voting meeting