

## Knoxville-Knox County Food Policy Council Meeting Minutes

Date & Location: Wednesday, March 20, 2024; United Way of Greater Knoxville

Type of Meeting: Educational

Recorder: Brett Foster

Attending Appointed (Voting) Members <b>Bolded names in attendance</b>	<b>Bruce Crabtree</b> Femeika Elliott <b>Bailey Foster</b> <b>Brett Foster</b> <b>Laura Deubler</b> <b>Sara Keel</b> Marisa Moazen Jen Russomanno Rylan Thompson Lauren Woods Donna Wright
Attending Associated (Non-voting) Members <b>Bolded names in attendance</b>	Chris Battle Kat Bike <b>Beth Brown</b> Jasmine Bryant <b>Adam Caraco</b> Sarah DeWitt Nicole Gross <b>Travis Henderson</b> Juanita Jones Ross Jones Hailey Lewis Marissa McKeague Judith Pelot <b>Porschia Pickett</b> <b>Charlotte Rodina</b> Wade Seifert Marsha Spence <b>Caesar Stair</b> Erin Sweeney Sandra Wairimu Tiara-Lady Wilson
Other Attendees (all names listed were in attendance)	Kimberly Pettigrew—United Way Greater Knoxville Jessie Hillman—Knoxville/Knox County Planning Madelyn Howe—Knox County Health Department  Adam Fritts—United Way Greater Knoxville  Fadi Aboush—Three Rivers Market Jennifer Ayers—United Way, Community Schools

	<p>Gabby Barnard—Nourish Knoxville  Trace Bateman—CAC Nutrition  Maryl Burke—CAC Beardsley Farm  Becky Hooper—Nourish Knoxville  Mary Clay Kline—Second Harvest  Maggie Lank—KCHD  Courtney Liles—Second Harvest  Kendra Lindsay—Second Harvest  Devalle Muhammed—Muslim Community of Knoxville  Kevin Murphy—TEAM  Sophie Spangler—Second Harvest  Alyssa Ussery—CAC Nutrition</p>
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1.	<p><b>Welcome and Introductions: Bailey Foster</b></p>
2.	<p><b>Community Schools 101: Adam Fritts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Schools in Knoxville since 2010; current model since 2012</li> <li>• Currently serving in 15 schools—will be serving 16 starting in July</li> <li>• Community School definition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Site coordinator</li> <li>○ Site-specific need and asset assessment</li> <li>○ Site steering committee (parents, community members, school staff)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Model: continual process of asset mapping &amp; needs assessment→steering committee priority determination→convene partner resources→system implementation→stakeholder evaluation</li> <li>• Have found that food is central to all parts of Community Schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In review of in-kind donations to schools, ~\$77k was for food resources</li> </ul> </li> <li>• For schools to be considered a Community School—school-based concern (academic, attendance, etc.); neighborhood census data; school/community buy-in; priority (KCS regional structure, funding, etc.)</li> </ul>
3.	<p><b>Approval of December/January Minutes: Bailey Foster</b>  No quorum</p>
4.	<p><b>Policy Updates: Kimberly Pettigrew</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance Knox <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Planning Commission just adopted and has been forwarded to Knox County Commission for formal adoption soon (workshop tomorrow-- 3/21, 2:00 PM--is open for public comment) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Once formally adopted, zoning code will be updated as well</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Growth Policy Plan in final stage of adoption in Farragut</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Advocacy efforts resulted in a new place type of rural agriculture as a land use; growth policy plan saw changes to planned growth areas.</li> <li>● Federal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ WIC: The 2024 Agriculture Appropriations Act was passed by Congress which means that the program is fully-funded at \$7 billion.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● State <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Universal Free Lunch Bill ended in a 3/5 vote in the Subcommittee of Education Administration. Likely it was the fiscal note, which had been negotiated to \$250M down from \$350M</li> <li>○ Femeika and Alexis’s Maternal Health Bill made it through the Health subcommittee and received unanimous support from the Senate Subcommittee.</li> <li>○ Just 2 weeks ago Alexis and Femeika testified in the GOP passing SB1832 on a 6-2-1 vote, followed by a unanimous 9-0 vote in the Health &amp; Welfare Committee on the Senate floor. They are currently seeking letters of support to present to House Representatives: ✉: <a href="mailto:knoxvilleblackmaternalhealth@gmail.com">knoxvilleblackmaternalhealth@gmail.com</a></li> <li>○ SB 1977/HB1914: Higher education: establishes the hunger-free campus grant program; provides grants to higher education institutions to address student hunger.</li> <li>○ UWGK is also tracking some bills working their way through around making nonprofits lives easier. Like SB1622/HB1708 that as introduced, revises certain fees payable to the secretary of state by certain charitable organizations; increases from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 the amount of gross revenue received during a fiscal year to trigger certain reporting requirements; assesses a late fee per month on certain financial reports that are not timely filed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
5.	<p><b>Organizational Updates: Bailey Foster</b></p> <p><b>CAC Beardsley Farm:</b> Seed and Plant sign-up is still ongoing (300 sign-ups still available...seeds come now and plants come at the end of April; produce distributed to 6 different Community Schools currently but looking to distribute more. Plant sale on April 20; workday this Saturday (3/23) from 9-12. Moved 20 refugee gardeners over to Beardsley Farm—now have over 65 gardeners.</p> <p><b>CAC:</b> Hired two new individuals helping with summer feeding and commodity distribution; looking for additional staff to serve as drivers and delivery agents</p> <p><b>Dragonfly Circus:</b> Invitation extended for the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Circus Extravaganza on April 27 and April 28. Reach out to Jake Weinstein at 865-888-6996 if interested.</p>

	<p><b><u>Knox County Community Gardens &amp; Growers Alliance:</u></b> supporting local gardens with raised beds; work days every Tuesday and Saturday from 9-12 and Thursday evenings 5 PM-dusk at Pastor Richard S. Brown, Jr. Community Garden</p> <p><b><u>Second Harvest:</u></b> Encouraged organizations to have families complete WIC surveys available through TN Justice Center grant.</p> <p><b><u>United Way:</u></b> Community Food Security Assessment Celebration will be on April 12 from 4-6 pm. Location is TBD and all are welcome to attend. We are seeking volunteers for the event. We'll be handing out the screenprinted posters of information shared by Ashlee Mays from our Food Summit in January.</p>
6.	<b>Meeting Adjourned</b>

Upcoming Meetings:

- April 17, 2024, 8:30-10:30—Annual Retreat
- May 15, 2024, 8:30-10:00—UT Students Market Basket Study/Food Supports for School-aged Children (Sandra Wairimu and Imelda Gutierrez)