

Knoxville-Knox County Food Policy Council Meeting Minutes

Date & Location: November 18, 2021, United Way of Greater Knoxville

Type of Meeting: Voting

Recorder: Rhea Kenney

Attending Appointed (Voting) Members	Kimberly Pettigrew Adam Caraco Rhea Kenney Beth Brown Ross Jones Donna Wright Bruce Crabtree Brett Foster Jen Russomanno Kristen Faerber
Attending Associated (Non-voting) Members	Amber Ford Alex Carmack Ashlyn Anderson Bailey Foster
Other Attendees	Amelia Gelnett Madelyn Howe Marisa Moazen Caesar Stair

1.	Welcome, Introductions: -Our annual Holiday Party will be held on December 16 th from 8:30-10:00. UW will host with snacks. -All participants participated in introductions.
2.	Business: -August meeting minutes reviewed: Kimberly Pettigrew moved to accept August minutes, Rhea Kenney second. Minutes approved. -The council will continue with monthly meetings, with anticipation of canceling the summer meeting should most members be unavailable to attend. New meeting day for 2022 will be 3 rd Wednesday of the month.
3.	Bylaws Committee: No new recommendations at this time.
4.	Nominations Committee: The committee presented the 2022 first and second term appointed members as Bailey Foster (county, 1 st term,) Bruce Crabtree (city, 1 st official term,) Brett Foster (county, 1 st official term) and Jennifer Russomanno (county, 2 nd term.) Committee reviewed associated members. Kimberly Pettigrew made a motion to accept appointed members. Adam Caraco second. Members approved.
5.	Executive Committee: The committee presented the following volunteers to fulfill the available executive positions as Jennifer Russomanno for Chair, Adam Caraco for Co-Chair and Rhea Kenney for Secretary. Kimberly Pettigrew made a motion to accept these volunteers as members of the Executive Committee. Jen Russomanno second. Motion approved.

6.	<p>Organizational Updates and Announcements:</p> <p><u>-KCHD:</u> Market Basket Survey and Food Access Map coming soon... Promoting food safety before the holiday season. WIC continues to do phone visits as Covid flexibility is still in place. Continuing public info for Covid questions.</p> <p><u>-American Heart Association:</u> They have approved 2, possibly 3 locations for cold storage. There is still enough funding for 10 more.</p> <p><u>-Knox County Schools:</u> Hosting Thanksgiving dinner today! Waiting for PEBT update. Have served 16,000 breakfasts and 36,000 lunches this year. 2022 will have some big projects to improve operation, including serving line improvements and cold storage updates. Still seeing significant staffing issues.</p> <p><u>-SHFB:</u> Mobile distribution tomorrow at Tabernacle. SNAP outreach is growing. Seeing food shortage Issues. Funding opportunity for walk-in cold storage coming... updates in the next few months.</p> <p><u>-Dream Center/Lost Sheep:</u> "Thanksgiving giveaway" starts today, 180 meal sets will go out. Hosted first hot food truck 3 weeks ago at West View Elementary. Was a hit! Chef Jessica Garrett did awesome. Want to start 1st night giveaway and grow from there. Gaining new walk-in cooler unit and soon a walk-in freezer.</p> <p><u>-Salvation Army:</u> Opened Covid shelter to connect folks with clothing, hygiene and hot meals. Have served over 500 families through the food pantry this year. 600 families will be served through Angel Tree this year and will be giving food gift cards as well. Continuing tutor program with meals service. Served 16,000 meals through residential programs last year.</p> <p><u>-KCDC:</u> Austin Homes reopened 20 units in November and will continue with more the next year. Will be mixed income availability with 300 more units than before. Western Heights project is still working on commitment letters for grant funding, with \$280 million total project cost.</p> <p><u>-Real Good Kitchen:</u> Celebrating One Year Anniversary in January! Helping food businesses grow. The pop-up market started in Oct. and have accessible options for East Knox neighbors. Would love to do a give-back meal during the holiday... email Bailey if you would like to participate.</p> <p><u>-2 Chicks and A Farm/UT Public Health:</u> UT Public Health interns are available for summer assistance. Get with Jen for more info. Download <i>ibotta</i> app and they will give you \$15 back for a turkey!</p> <p><u>-UT Student Basic Needs Coalition:</u> Hunger and Homelessness Week is this week. Hosted Basic Needs Fair on Tuesday, SNAP outreach is today and the Hunger and Homelessness Summit is tomorrow. Big Orange is still growing and going strong.</p> <p><u>-Knox County Master Gardeners:</u> Caesar Stair- There are 180 members of KCMG with 12,000 pounds of produce donated to local agencies. Currently working on school projects with volunteers as well as working in East Knox with Battlefield Farms to grow community in that food desert. Working to obtain a 501c3 for an umbrella organization to house multiple areas that will help grow/ maintain community gardens. Also currently working with Habitat on a new living community, which will have raised gardens.</p> <p><u>-Boys and Girls Club:</u> Expanding in 3 locations to have double door cold storage and new cafeteria tables. Working on 65 Thanksgiving sets for families as well as 900 Gift of Joy sets for the holidays.</p> <p><u>-WUOT:</u> The station does media sponsorships for local nonprofits for special events, etc. Contact for more info. *The FPC would like to thank Kristen for her years of service!</p> <p><u>-UT Extension:</u> Lauren Woods is the new Knox County coordinator to help with nutrition info, food demos and more.</p> <p><u>-Beardsley Farm:</u> Hiring for new position for school education in January. Received more funding for perishables for immigrants and refugees.</p> <p><u>-Caring Plate (CAC):</u> Amelia has started her new position at Caring Plate Program, which is a provider specific program for cancer patients. CAC Empty Stocking Fund Still accepting applicants until Dec. 18 or until full.</p> <p><u>-Nourish Knox:</u> Growing the "Walkup" program with the downtown Farmers' Market.</p> <p><u>-UW:</u> Starting a county wide food assessment next year. Kimberly says, "Thank you for allowing me to chair during this time."</p>
7.	<p>Calendar Updates 2021: December 16th at 8:30- Annual Holiday Party</p> <p>Calendar Updates for 2022: Our meeting day will be moved to 3rd Wednesday of the month from 8:30-10:00 at the United Way of Greater Knoxville</p>
8.	<p>Addition Updates, Networking and Conversation</p>
9.	<p>Meeting adjourned.</p>