

Knoxville-Knox County Food Policy Council Meeting Minutes

Date & Location: Wednesday, November 19, 2025; United Way of Greater Knoxville

Type of Meeting: Educational

Recorder: Sara Keel

Attending Appointed (Voting) Members Bolded names in attendance	Bruce Crabtree Femeika Elliott Bailey Foster Brett Foster Laura Deubler Sara Keel Marisa Moazen Rylan Thompson Lauren Woods Donna Wright Sarah Dewitt
Attending Associated (Non-voting) Members Bolded names in attendance	Trace Bateman John Camp Nicole Gross Julia Stewart Judith Pelot Adam Caraco Travis Henderson Marsha Spence Marissa McKeague Charlotte Rodina Hailey Lewis Caesar Stair Sandra Wairimu Becky Hooper Jen Russamano Jasmine Bryant Jen Durant
Staff Support Bolded names in attendance	Arien Allen—United Way Greater Knoxville Kimberly Pettigrew—United Way Greater Knoxville Madelyn Howe—Knox County Health Department Jessie Hillman—Knoxville-Knox County Planning Kara Finger—City of Knoxville
Other Attendees (all names listed were in attendance)	<u>Other Attendees:</u> Danielle Trotter, UT Extension/Public Health Alhen Drillian Catherine Abbott, Silver Queen Kitchen Lia Bevins, Beardsley Farm Denarius Ross, Wesley House

	Maggie Sparks, UWGC Amanda Spangler, UT Plant Sciences Jenna Bailey, KCDC Cameron Boisture, CAC Nutrition Madeline Harrell Kandice Baker, KADA Kevin Murphy, Farm Bureau Noah McBrayer James, Bridge Refugee Services Hannah Sett, KCDC AmeriCorps Chloe Mowry, Carex Design Group CJ Sentell, Nashville Food Project Torrie Boggs, RGKF Celeste Paula, Centro Hispano Rhea Joshi, UTK Jodie Johnson, KCDC AmeriCorps Valeria Ramirez, Centro Hispano Parker Avery, East TN Children's Hospital
--	---

1.	Welcome and Introductions – Sarah Dewitt, Vice Chair
2.	Organizational & Committee Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wins/Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ American Heart Association – opened more cold storage ○ Community Land Trust – Seeking parcels ○ Black Maternal Health Week – steering committee, participants ○ Food access and equity through community gardens – seeking those with experience to participate ○ River Valley Health – food and nutrition policy, now have partnerships pantries that are aligned with healthy eating guidelines and policies. ○ Rylan Johnson TSU accepted new position starting January, will lose access to work phone and TSU email ○ United Way received \$100,000 from city of Knoxville, will make 9 awards to agencies already vetted with United Way. Community Investments grant will open March 2026. • Bylaws Committee Sarah Dewitt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Remove “consecutive” from absences allowing notification of member ○ Removing member, changed to “full voting” members rather than full membership ○ Clarify “coordination” ○ Make annual calendar.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Created Bylaw Rubric Chart, will use to check in and share with membership to gauge progress. ○ Bylaws changes passed ● Nominations Committee Lauren Woods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Members serving second terms – Sara Keel, Lauren Woods ○ New Voting Members for 2026 – Jasmine Bryant, Noah McBrayer James, Laila Malik ○ New Associate Members for 2026 – Rhea Joshi, Amanda Spangler, Dr. Tran, Candace, Lia Bevins, Denarius Ross, Danielle Trotter ○ Officer Nominations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ President – Marisa Moazen ▪ Vice President – Sarah Dewitt ▪ Secretary – Sara Keel ○ Nominations slate passed
3.	Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bold Goals and Strategies Finalization Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review of current bylaws ○ Split into groups for each strategy – discussed strategies for each
4.	Meeting Adjourned

Upcoming Meetings:

- Weekly Food Access Committee Call – Mondays at 9am via Zoom
- Distribution Working Group – Nov 25 from 2:00-3:30pm at Knox Pride
- Food Policy Council Holiday Party – Dec 17 from 8:30am-10am at United Way of Greater Knoxville