

## Knoxville-Knox County Food Policy Council Meeting Minutes

Date & Location: Thursday, September 21, 2017; Knox County Health Department

Type of Meeting: General Meeting

Attending Appointed (Voting) Members	Khann Chov – Beardsley Community Farm Willa Essie Kristen Faerber - Food Consultant/Community Volunteer Heather Kyle-Harmon – UT Extension, Knox County Fiona McAnally - Knox County Health Department
Attending Associate Members	Ellen Morar – YMCA Gail Root – Second Harvest Food Bank Amanda Spangler - Center for Urban Agriculture
Other Attendees	Daniel Aisenbrey – Knox County Health Dept Liz Albertson – MPC Brian Blackmon – City of Knoxville Austin Brewer – University of Tennessee (student) Sally Buice – AmeriCorps VISTA/Nourish Knoxville Mark Carper – East TN Permaculture Research Institute Hannah Freeman – AmeriCorps VISTA/City Office of Neighborhoods Matthew Gabb – CAC, Volunteer Assisted Transport Jim Gray - East TN Permaculture Research Institute Nathan Hilbert Sara Keel – Mobile Meals/Beardsley Farm Ralph Kirkpatrick – Peach Lutheran Rachel Oxendine – UT Extension (intern) Christina Peterson – University of Tennessee (student) Erin Read – Knox County Health Dept Jennifer Russomanno – 2 Chicks and a Farm Jennifer Smith – UT Extension (intern) John Walker – University of Tennessee (student)

1.	Approval of minutes for June and August: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No approval of minutes due to lack of quorum</li> </ul>
2.	MPC Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural Preservation Zone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ag preservation zone is a proposed new zone</li> <li>Density allowance is one house per 25 acres</li> <li>Current agricultural zone allows one house per acre</li> <li>No general rezoning is planned at this time; just one new zone to give option to landowners to “downzone” and conserve their farm land as more than just waiting pattern for residential development</li> <li>MPC considers rezonings on an individual basis at every monthly meeting</li> <li>Some controversy/confusion: some have confused this new zone with the rural retreat regulations (regulate for-profit events on rural land), or with right-to-farm laws (protect farmers from some nuisance lawsuits)</li> <li>If you know farmers who’d be willing to give input, please contact Liz Albertson</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion for an FPC letter of support to MPC to approve establishment of ag preservation zone, tabled due to lack of quorum (none spoke out against letter)</li> <li>• FPC Executive Committee will vote on letter of support, and full FPC will approve at next formal meeting</li> <li>• ReCode Knoxville <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ReCode Knoxville is an update to City zoning ordinance</li> <li>• Public meeting this past Tuesday Sept 19 to review technical report from consultants garnered 70 people</li> <li>• Current ordinance is outdated and challenging to navigate and interpret</li> <li>• Update will increase clarity and reflect more modern land uses</li> <li>• Recent urban agriculture ordinance will be incorporated and cross-referenced</li> <li>• Consultants working to incorporate feedback, new draft of ordinance due out January 2018</li> <li>• Next draft will be vetted through more public meetings and a survey</li> <li>• Current draft includes comments on neighborhood-level farmers markets</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Dollar General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board of Zoning Appeals to consider exceptions to zoning regs for new Dollar General at 2209 North Central</li> <li>• Meeting today, 4pm, small assembly room in the City County Building</li> <li>• Dollar General wants to demolish current structure and build new (old Habitat ReStore location)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
3.	<p>Announcements/Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beardsley Community Farm holding dinner fundraiser Sunday, Sept 24. Old City chefs and artisans create five-course dinner sourced from Beardsley, including wine and beer pairings. Central St. will be closed and table will be set up in the street. Some tickets are left, \$95/person.</li> <li>• Knoxville Botanical Gardens' Grow Your Garden classes continue, one offered today at 12pm on plant propagation and seed saving.</li> <li>• Knoxville Botanical Gardens' annual gala and fundraiser coming up Oct. 1. Theme this year is Homegrown Harvest.</li> <li>• Farm to Table dinner celebrating women in agriculture: Oct 15 at Good Golly Tamale. All food sourced from female farmers.</li> <li>• Tennessee Public Health Association (TPHA) annual meeting last week included panel on food: Nashville mayor's health and wellness advisor looking to restart a Food Policy Council in Nashville, and TDEC rep discussed efforts around food waste. A new direction for TPHA, which has tended to view food through the lens of dietetics.</li> <li>• Fiona McAnally just returned from Syracuse, NY for Invest Health meeting on food access, heard from reps from The Food Trust and the Wallace Foundation. Major takeaway: very proud of Knoxville and Knox County. Nothing came up that we haven't already discussed or tried locally.</li> <li>• Willa Essie has been approached by a pastor at Graystone Church about a feasibility study for a fresh produce food bank in South Knoxville. She will send the proposal to this group.</li> </ul>
4.	<p>Break into workgroups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning and zoning related to food/agriculture</li> <li>• Government/private incentives for food businesses/grocery stores</li> <li>• Document organizations working on food system in Knoxville/Knox County</li> <li>• Supply issues for local food</li> </ul>
6.	Adjourn
	Next meeting: Oct. 19, 8:30 am to 9:30 am