



Commission of Food Security, Heritage, and Economy

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Commission on Food Security, Heritage, and Economy and to the general public that the Commission will hold the following meeting which will be open to the public on:

Monday July 22, 2019, 9:00 a.m.
El Banco Building: Pima Country Housing Center
801 W Congress St, Tucson, Arizona

Legal Action Report

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

Present:

Rani Olsen

Mike Peel

Doug Taren

Robert Ojeda

Kara Jones

Erik Stanford

Loni Anderson

Joy Hought

Claire Kaufman (staff support)

Absent:

Dan McDonald

Claudio Rodriguez

Marie Long

Ryan Clark

2. Approval of Minutes – March 15, 2019

Doug made a motion to approve the minutes. Robert seconded. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

3. Update on Commission Size and Open Meeting Law

Claire spoke to the process of amending the ordinance so now the membership of the commission is 12 members instead of 17. Members who were no longer active or interested were replaced by new commissioners. It will now take 7 people to reach quorum. Claire also explained that there was concern from City staff about the prospect of dissolving the commission because of our City of Gastronomy status.

Claire explained the basics of open meeting law and recommended that everyone review the open meeting law presentation on the Boards, Committees and Commissions page of the City Clerk's page on the City of Tucson website.

Claire asked the present commissioners what dates and times work best going forward for the monthly meeting. A few times were proposed, and it was determined that Claire will send out a doodle poll to figure out the best times for all commissioners moving forward.

4. City of Tucson departments and opportunities

Claire explained how, although there is no specific staff person working on food issues, there is opportunity to work on policies that might fall under the departments of Planning and Development Services, Water, and Environmental and General Services. She explained the process of proposing a policy or program to Mayor & Council.

5. Focus Areas & Goals

Mike suggested that the commission review the August retreat notes and the UA food entrepreneurship notes to start to narrow down focus areas.

Robert expressed that he wants to make sure the commission can discuss any food related issues in the community, even if they are controversial.

There was discussion that they should work towards choosing policy priorities so that they have a plan they can show future policy makers, and that maybe part of their focus could be on gathering data. There was discussion of potentially inviting the mayoral candidates to a meeting. Claire will check with the City Clerk to see if this is OK.

Rani proposed an annual coming together of food related organizations, and that maybe all food organizations could pick the main issue to address that year.

There was discussion about what makes this commission unique from other food groups in the City, and the consensus was on the connection to City council.

Robert said that, while food has become a vibrant thing in Tucson with lots of investment in new restaurants and other food-related businesses, it has become a very frustrating thing for folks in disenfranchised communities. There was discussion about how the food commission might be a voice for disenfranchised communities and other food groups, and how they might work across City and county lines.

Joy suggested that they need to do a “needs analysis” before they prioritize focus areas. There was discussion of inviting various food related groups to give a 10 minute presentation to the food commission, asking them to share “what are you working on and how we can best serve you?” There was general agreement that invitees should include City of Gastronomy, PCFA, Flowers and Bullets, CFS, Iskaashita, Tierra y Libertad, and other groups. They also discussed that this might be a good way to rebuild trust in the food commission among various food groups in Tucson.

6. Formation of Sub- Committees

There was discussion that the commission should not form sub-committees until after they complete the needs analysis.

7. Future Agenda Items

Claire and Rani said they would follow up via email with invitations to various food groups to give 10 minute presentations at the next two meetings.

8. Call to the Audience

There were no audience members.

9. Announcements

There were no announcements.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.