



# 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 August 19, 2019, 8:30 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 8:34 a.m.

Present:

Rani Olsen

Dan McDonald

Mike Peel

Doug Taren

Erik Stanford

Loni Anderson

Joy Hought

Claudio Rodriguez

Marie Long

Ryan Clark

Claire Kaufman (staff support)

Absent:

Robert Ojeda

Kara Jones

### 2. Approval of Minutes – July 22, 2019

Rani made a motion to approve the minutes. Claudio seconded. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

### 3. Announcements

Dan shared there is a vacancy for Pima County Cooperative Extension advisory board for someone who does “agricultural production”. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact him.

Mike announced Local First AZ good food expo in Phoenix coming up August 26. For tickets, sponsorship opportunities, and program details visit <https://www.goodfoodfinderaz.com/expo>

Claudio shared that Tucson Meet Yourself needs volunteers, and to contact him if you’re interested.

Erik stated he is organizing the food justice expo, it might be a good opportunity for the food commission to hold an event.

Marie announced she is changing jobs, and her last day at the AZ Desert Museum will be 9/20. She will try to find a replacement soon.

Loni announced there are open positions for an environmental health specialist at Pima County.

Claire announced that she will be moving over to work in Councilmember Kozachik's Office. She will likely still be the staff liaison for the next few months but needs to confirm.

#### **4. Discussion: Needs Analysis for Food Community & Policy Priorities**

Rani explained that, as discussed in the previous meeting, we are scheduled to have two food groups come in for the next three meetings and explain their work, challenges, and obstacles.

Claire mentioned that the City's Climate Commission (CCES) is presenting a sustainability report and recommendation to Mayor & Council on 9/17. Since food policy is a large part of sustainability policy, she recommended that the two commissions connect. Rani said she would be happy to talk to a representative, and perhaps someone from CCES could come to a future CFSHE meeting.

Rani said it would be great if CFSHE could hold a Mayoral forum at Tucson Meet Yourself. Everyone was very enthusiastic. Claire said she would check with the City Clerk's office to make sure it doesn't violate any rules.

#### **5. Guest Presentation: Local Foods Value Chain**

Audra Christophel runs the LFCV at the Community food bank. The CFB overall goal is to create a more just, equitable, sustainable food system. The LFVC goal is to identify and remove barriers to move local food in larger quantities to Tucson institutions. Their stakeholders are farmers, and they are working closely with southern Arizona Young Farmers & Ranchers. Their main buyers currently are TUSD, TMC, and UA. Their distributor is Pivot Produce. Initially, CFB, was playing the role of distributor, but they are currently trying to *not* play all the roles. CFB sees itself as a convener and coordinator.

Their biggest obstacles are: *who* are the right people to convene, capacity, and support from city and state. For example, they are looking into local incentives for local purchased. The resources that would be most useful to them are city and state support and work, as well as broader funding.

#### **6. Guest Presentation: Pima County Food Alliance**

Holly Bryant works at el Rio Health and is the Chair of PCFA. There are currently 13 members from Community Food Bank, Pivot Produce, Cooperative Extension, el Rio, and more. They work a lot with Pinnacle Production, which does policy work in Phoenix.

PCFA's policy priorities from 2018 are the following:

1. Food Access at Farmers' Markets
2. Good Food Purchasing Policy (not continuing to pursue)
3. Sustainable Zoning Code (accomplished)
4. SNAP Finger Imaging Requirement (accomplished)
5. Farm & Food Safety
6. Food Waste

This year, they've added water rights for urban farmers to their list of priorities.

Their biggest obstacles are: being stretched thin, because all members are volunteers, trying to do more outreach, connection to local politics and being unaware of current conversations.

## **7. Future Agenda Items**

Erik stated the mayoral candidate forum as discussed previously. Claire will look into rules.

Joy said that it would be helpful to recap all speakers, and perhaps divide policy work into three areas: (1) infrastructure and capacity (2) equity and justice (3) economy. She also stated it's important to ensure we aren't duplicating efforts of other groups.

Claudio suggested that maybe there can be a meeting of all commissioners to see how others are approaching things and what their current priorities are. There may be some overlap, like with the climate commission, and perhaps the art commission and more. Claire said she would look into this.

Mike offered to create a support request form for community organizations.

## **8. Call to the Audience**

There were no audience members.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.