



Arizona Department of Agriculture

Office of the Director
1688 W. Adams Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 542-3191 FAX (602) 542-5420

Approved MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON Tuesday, November 27, 2018
1688 W. Adams Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

1. Call to Order Cassie Lyman, Chair

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

2. Roll Call Sharma Torrens

Sharma called roll.

FAPAC Members Attending in Person: Chair Cassie Lyman, Glenna McCollum-Cloud, Liz Taylor

FAPAC Members Attending via WebEx: Paul Brierley, Leslie Fox

AZDA: Director Killian, Sharma Torrens, Michele Mellott

Public Attendees: Angie Rodgers, Association of AZ Food Banks

3. Member Update Sharma Torrens

Sharma informed the FAPAC members that there were still 12 FAPAC members, with the three legislators being ex-officio members. There are 9 voting FAPAC members. Sharma also mentioned that the Director would like to have Native American representation on the FAPAC. So, this number could be increasing in the near future.

Paul, Leslie and Liz all have Native American contacts for Sharma, which they will send to her. The Chair also sent Sharma a name from a good candidate for the FAPAC that works at Rousseau Carrots.

4. Approval of October 16, 2018 Minutes Cassie Lyman

Glenna moved to accept the meeting minutes as presented, Liz seconded this motion. The FAPAC members unanimously approved. See the below votes:

Chair Cassie Lyman	Aye
Paul Brierley	Aye
Rocco Cardinale	
Rep. Charlene Fernandez	
Leslie Fox	Aye
Elyse Guidas	
Sen. Sine Kerr	
Glenna McCollum-Cloud	Aye

Dave Richins
Erich Schultz
Rep. T.J. Shope
Elizabeth Taylor

Aye

*5. Continued Discussion on Director's Desired Next Steps for FAPAC
(Information, discussion and action)

Cassie Lyman/Director Killian

Because the Director was not yet available to attend the FAPAC meeting, the Chair moved to #7 on the agenda.

The Director was able to join the meeting after the discussion for #7 below. He emphasized that the AZDA wants to have the following impacts with its work on food insecurity: (1) creating connections; (2) spreading valuable information; (3) determining metrics and how the AZDA is effective and can be more so; and (4) helping food banks.

At the last discussion, it was decided that accurate metrics were needed surrounding food insecurity (since the U.S. Department of Agriculture metric of living over a mile from a grocery store does not necessarily determine food insecurity (since some in rural areas plan for buying large quantities of food in their shopping trips). Glenna represented the informal subcommittee (which also include Elyse and Dave) that seeks to collect the data in AZ relating to food insecurity. This informal subcommittee will be meeting next week to start gathering this data. Once the data is collected it will be easier to decipher what data needs to be improved and how metrics can accurately be gathered to see if the AZDA is being successful in its food insecurity efforts.

Liz had a suggestion that the information collected at workshops and the attendees could be used to create a connectivity map, showing the connections. When connections expand it would demonstrate progress. This is currently being done in Coconino County. Leslie also revealed that similar things are being done in Yavapai County.

The Chair mentioned that this data should be shared with the AZDA and then put on the AZDA website. A lead person could be found in each AZ County who could lead these efforts. The Director discussed maybe inviting a key person from each of the counties to discuss this.

The Director would like a letter drafted to the County Supervisor Chair to ask them to attend a meeting and begin discussions with the AZDA about collecting such data. The FAPAC recommended that the letter be addressed to the appropriate person at the County Health Department. Leslie offered to draft such a letter (to make them aware of the AZDA's efforts and open up lines of communication and inviting them to a meeting), which she will send to Sharma within the next week. Leslie also has a PowerPoint created relating to food recovery and what is necessary to include as an attachment.

The Database was raised since it was a goal of the AZDA to create a one-stop database of information. Sharma did create this and she showed the FAPAC (on www.agriculture.az.gov, under Food Access, under Helpful Links (at the bottom). It is a work in progress that FAPAC suggested making more categories and make it more visually appealing. Additionally, the FAPAC members will send Sharma more links and information to provide. Glenna suggested Sharma mention this at the Food Summit and the Food Access Workshops in order to get the word out about this.

Sharma is now devoting 30% of her time towards Farm to School efforts (getting local producers' food into local schools). The Director would like to get the work out to the farmers about finding them and educating them about Farm to School as well as food safety and donating food. Liz mentioned that micro-growers are not aware of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) requirements.

The FAPAC discussed creating a Facebook page, which would need to be examined by legal counsel. Sharma will check with the AZDA's counsel.

Ultimately, the Chair noted that the FAPAC could work on the goals and deadlines via the 5-year Road Map.

6. Continued 5-Year Road Map Discussion
(Information, discussion and action)

Cassie Lyman/Director Killian

The Chair went through the 2017 Recommendations from the FAPAC to determine the 5-Year Road Map and when progress can be determined. The "*" sections below are what the Chair will be stating at the 2019 Food Summit regarding this 5-Year Road Map.

1) Expand the existing state food donation incentive statute (A.R.S. 43-1025) to include all food donations, especially dairy, poultry, beef, and fresh animal protection and also have the AZDA dedicate staff to the AZ Grown food access opportunities, Good

Samaritan laws and connect food donors to food banks.

*By the end of 2019, the AZDA will have held a meeting with industry leaders to determine whether they want such a tax incentive. If it is desirable to the industries, the Association of AZ Food Banks has offered to look for a sponsor for a bill to revise the tax incentive.

*The FAPAC is working with the AZDA to revamp the Arizona Grown brand, with a goal to get some regulations/statutes in place, with a goal for year two of applying for a grant (to fund staff to oversee the AZ Grown brand).

2) Provide funding to food banks, non-profit organizations, agricultural food cooperatives and the Double-Up Food Bucks food programs and direct access to the Double up Food Bucks Program.

*The FAPAC is only advisory in nature and can only advise the Director how the AZDA can be more effective with its food insecurity work. However, the former Chair of the FAPAC, Senator Sine Kerr was instrumental in seeing that the \$1M was appropriated from the Governor's budget towards distribution and storage for the food banks. Additionally, FAPAC members in their individual capacity and via their other connections were vocal proponents of this effort.

*Additionally, the USDA last year sent \$400K to the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI) program.

3) Empower sustained Arizona Agriculture Food Production.

*The AZDA is holding 5 Food Access workshops/year and will continue to do so. This year alone, including the Food Summit, the AZDA has already held 3 of these workshops, not including the Food Summit. They are well-attended and occur throughout the state.

*Additionally, the AZDA is sending a letter to the Universities (Liz will provide the NAU letter to Sharma by the end of 2018, which will be used as a model for the other two universities) to determine what they are doing for agriculture and how the AZDA can collaborate with them (ASU, U of A and NAU).

4) Streamline state and country health guidelines, reducing cumbersome and costly third party certifications.

*The AZDA will hold a meeting within the next 4 months of all of the AZ Counties and make recommendations by 2020.

5) Endorse cultivating a strong regional food system and partner with statewide coordination of existing Food Policy Councils.

*By the end of 2019, the AZDA will have met with all regional food system and set yearly goals.

6) Organize regular events to gather persons/organization/entities in the production and distribution of food to gather and share information and concerns and report back to the FAPAC and educate the community.

*The AZDA has held two annual summits and is currently holding its third event.

7) Consider subsidies, microloans and education for new and small farmers.

*The AZDA will hold 8 Good Handling Practices (GHP)/Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) trainings and/or Food and Safety Modernization Act Product Safety Rule trainings within the next year. The place where there will be held will be determined by the Food Summit attendees (maybe via Thought Boards filled out at the Networking Breaks).

8) Create a one-stop shop page on the AZDA website focused on increasing access to healthy food.

*The AZDA has created a website for helpful website, meant to provide information to all looking for any information relating to food and food insecurity. The website is a work in progress and will be updated as the FAPAC members will add to this.

Overall, the Chair would like this to be an interactive session where she gathers information from the attendees. Also, the FAPAC members want to ensure the FAPAC is viewed as providing networks to identify funding and resources and to establish larger collaborations.

Sharma will create talking points and send these to the Chair for the upcoming Food Summit.

7. Food Summit Status, Presentations and Food Access Workshops

Cassie Lyman/Sharma Torrens

(Information, discussion and action)

Sharma reminded the FAPAC that the Food Summit is on January 8th and 9th in Tucson and encouraged them to register (www.arizonafoodsummit.org). The Chair should register, but should note that she is a speaker as there will no registration fee.

The Chair addressed Angie Rodgers in the audience, who informed the FAPAC that there were 45 attendees registered for the Food Summit. So, Sharma noted that this event, being that it was only 6 weeks out, was in dire need of marketing.

Professional credit should be given for attending the Food Summit as this would attract professional groups. Glenna will send the link of the Food Summit out to the registered dietitians. Cassie will send this out to Project CENTRL (the center for rural leadership).

Sharma will ensure that the cooperative extension markets this. Leslie will ensure the State Alliance groups are aware of this event. Sharma will send this link to the registration to the FAPAC members again for their convenience.

The Chair asked Sharma about the last workshop on October 29th. There were over 80 persons in attendance and the feedback received thus far has been very positive. Liz attended and she thought it was well done and thought the turn-out was good. Glenna thought the workshops did connect the dots and did provide essential networking opportunities.

The agenda might have been too ambitious, with too many speakers as there was a time constraint and Sharma wishes that she would have had a chance to educate the attendees about the value of agriculture (which she did not get a chance to do). Liz mentioned that good agriculture stories should be collected to convey the value of agriculture. Liz will send some stories to Sharma.

The Chair asked about the added topic of food storage, which was discussed by Eric Sawyer, with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Sharma noted that this attracted other faith-based groups and this should be a topic for each workshop. Sharma also discussed the fact that the Partnership With Native Americans speaker, Rafael Tapia, attracted at least 20 attendees to this workshop, representing 6 different Tribes.

Leslie wanted to emphasize that something that should be emphasized at the end of the workshops should be continuing these discussions. The FAPAC members also noted that it is important to have a lasting impact through our workshops and create metrics for determining the AZDA's impact with these.

8. Call to the Public

This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Committee may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01 (H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.

There was none

9. Executive Session

To obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A) (3) on any matter on the agenda

This was not necessary.

10. Next Meeting

To Be Determined

Sharma will send around a Doodle Poll to have a meeting the last week in February and combine that with a trip to and tour of Yuma agriculture.

Person(s) with disabilities may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Melissa Meek at (602) 542-0925 (voice), or 1-800-367-3839 (TDD Relay). Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.