



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, April 2, 2019
1688 W. Adams Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

HANDOUTS: 4/2/19 Agenda; 11/27/18 Meeting Minutes; 2017 FAPAC Recommendations; Food Summit FAPAC Workshop Attendees Feedback (in a table); Letter to Counties from Director and Leslie Fox' Letter Attachment; 4/29 Yuma Food Access Workshop.

1. Call to Order Cassie Lyman, Chair
2. Roll Call Sharma Torrens

Sharma Torrens called roll.

FAPAC Members Present In-Person: Chair Cassie Lyman; Liz Taylor; Leslie Fox; Elyse Guidas; Glenna McCollum-Cloud; Rafael Tapia
FAPAC Members Present via Phone: Kami Weddle; Patty Emmert; Paul Brierley; Dave Richins; Rocco Cardinale (temporarily).

AZDA Present: Director Mark Killian; Sharma Torrens; Michele Mellott.

Public Present: Angie Rodgers, Association of AZ Food Banks; Ashley St. Thomas, Association of AZ Food Banks; Katie Boglitz, AZ Office of the Auditor General; Tyler Davis, Arizona Farm Bureau.

3. Member Update Sharma Torrens

Sharma updated the members that Erich Schultz is no longer a member of the FAPAC due to his severe time constraints. Rafael Tapia, Kami Weddle and Patty Emmert have been added to the members. There are 14 members of the FAPAC, with 3 ex-officio not voting members.

Cassie had the FAPAC members present introduce themselves.

4. Approval of November 27, 2018 Minutes Cassie Lyman

Leslie moved to approve the minutes as written, Glenna second the motion. With one abstention, the present FAPAC members unanimously voted to approve the minutes as written.

Paul Brierley	AYE
Rocco Cardinale	
Patty Emmert	AYE
Leslie Fox	AYE
Elyse Guidas	AYE

Cassie Lyman
Glenna McCollum-Cloud
Dave Richins
Rafael Tapia
Elizabeth Taylor
Kami Weddle

AYE
AYE
ABSTAIN
AYE
AYE

5. Continued Discussion on Director's Desired Next Steps for FAPAC Cassie Lyman/Director Killian
(Information, discussion and action)
A. Director's desired impacts and metrics

Cassie had Director Killian introduce himself and speak to this subject. Director Killian stated that he would like to see movement dealing with food insecurity and find metrics that ultimately more food is getting to people that need this. He would like the FAPAC members to focus on the following: (1) implementing the current 2017 Recommendations; and 2) any new challenges that should be brought to the table.

There was some discussion around whether mobile food trucks/vehicles could be provided for the needs of Tribal Lands. Leslie noted that food recovery efforts, including Cornucopia, definitely need more refrigerated vans to transport. Angie Rodgers stated that there is a shortage of drivers and vehicles for full-day drives. Elyse noted that the costs for mobile units to go to rural areas is much higher than that within urban centers as the vehicles in urban locations can make several stops (within a close range). Bashas' and local grocers could be encouraged to provide mobile distribution of their food (e.g. Food City in some locations provides free transportation of their food as it makes sense with their business plan). Pinnacle Prevention is also working on making this happen.

Leslie brought up the fact that there are regulations for composting and that compost cannot be near a flood plain as composting is a chemical reaction that if not managed properly can result in a fire (e.g. Firefighters tried to put out compost fire with water and it exploded). Some composters are putting their sites next to water. Additionally, some facilities/stores find it cheaper to burn food rather than donate it. This might be a focus for regulation.

The Director also noted that he would like to see the metrics from our Food Access Workshops (efforts created because of the momentum caused by the AZDA holding a Food Access Workshop in a certain region). For instance, at the Cochise County Workshop this year

The FAPAC members would like Sharma to create a map to designate all of the regions in which the AZDA has held a Food Access Workshop and designate the efforts that stemmed from such workshop (created from the momentum by the workshop).

In terms of a purpose of the FAPAC and metrics, Rafael noted that Partnership With Native Americans hold a roundtable to engage communities and hosts focus groups to get meaningful input and buy-in from the community.

Ultimately, Sharma will add questions to the surveys for the Food Access Workshops and create a map to see what has been done and what was created because of these workshops (e.g. Gila County created an Indoor Farming Facility and Mohave County has a Food Systems group).

B. Subcommittee's progress

The subcommittee to work on determining existing food insecurity metrics is waiting to hear from the Director what he would like the FAPAC metrics to be.

C. One stop database/website update

Discussed in more detail under section 6 below.

6. Discussion of 2017 Recommendations and Progress Cassie Lyman/Director Killian
(Information, discussion and action)

1. Eight recommendations

Cassie went through the eight commendations as well as the given actions and timelines.

#1 Expand the existing state food donation incentive statute....

The AZDA is to hold an industry meeting to determine desire for this. The Director would also like to send a letter to industry about this.

#2 Provide funding to food banks...

This has been completed as it was a one-time activity. However, the FAPAC did discuss whether members could provide support to the Association of AZ Food Banks current budgetary ask. Cassie wondered whether she could provide a letter on behalf of the FAPAC supporting this ask. Sharma stated that she would ask the AZDA's counsel whether this is feasible.

#3 Empower sustained AZ Agriculture Food Production

Liz is working on a letter that can be sent to the various Universities following up on this. Liz will send this to Sharma.

#4 Streamline state and county health guidelines...

A letter was provided to the FAPAC to review and comment. The FAPAC members would like to revise this letter to make it broader and so Sharma will work with Liz and Leslie on finalizing this. The dates given in the letter for the possible meeting (May 16th, 21st or 29th) worked for the FAPAC members.

The FAPAC would like Sharma to talk to Stewart Jacobson from the AZDA about how this would affect his Good Handling Practices/Good Ag. Practices trainings.

#5 Endorse cultivating a strong regional food system...

The AZDA is working to meet with all regional food system before setting yearly goals.

#6 Organize regular events....

The AZDA has held three food summits and a fourth is being planned.

#7 Consider subsidies, microloans and education....

Sharma will look into how many Good Handling Practices/Good Agricultural Practices and Produce Safety Rule trainings have been held (the pledge was to hold 8 of these in the next year).

#8 Create a one-stop shop on the AZDA website...

Sharma has created this and needs input from FAPAC members what links need to be added to this. The website just directs others to links (and other websites) to find certain information. Glenna brought up the fact that at one point, there could be a phone app created to director folks to our website and these links.

2. Recommendations with upcoming deadlines

7. Food Summit Outcome Discussion
(Information, discussion and action)
 1. FAPAC Workshop and Feedback

Cassie Lyman/Sharma Torrens

This will be on the next meeting agenda as Sharma will revise and make it clear which ones are not covered by the FAPAC's 2017 Recommendations. The FAPAC members that were present at this Food Summit could also chime in to give context when responses are difficult to decipher.

8. 2018 Farm Bill Overview Presentations

Angie Rodgers, Assoc. AZ Food Banks
Tyler Davis, AZ Farm Bureau

Angie Rodgers, Association of AZ Food Banks, presented about the 2018 Farm Bill. The USDA has held listening sessions. Angie gave figured on amounts given to various nutrition programs under the nutrition titles. She will send Sharma a breakdown summary of these.

Angie also addressed the current proposed regulation within USDA which would be stricter for Able Bodies Adults without Dependents (ABAWD). Ultimately, it would take the power away from the state Governor's and give it to USDA (when USDA doesn't know the needs of the specific area).

Angie also addressed the fact that through the Trade Mitigation Offerings (food given to food banks because of the trade wars) AZ food banks will receive 55 truck loads of food (1.6M/month) and the Association of AZ Food Banks is seeking monies to cover the storage, overhead, etc. costs that will be incurred.

Tyler Davis, Arizona Farm Bureau, showed a PowerPoint to the members. The Farm Bill is renewed every 5 years and is an omnibus agriculture and food policy (with 20% ag. related). Total spending is \$867B, with the nutrition titles with \$664B.

9. Hunger Advisory Council Membership Updates

Sharma Torrens

Sharma just informed the FAPAC members that she recently became a member of the Hunger Advisory Council (HAC), which is managed by the AZ Department of Economic Security. This might allow for more collaboration and reduce duplicative efforts between the HAC and FAPAC.

Elyse also noted that she recently became a member of the HAC.

10. 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.

None

11. Executive Session

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

None was held.

12. Next Meeting

To Be Determined

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.

Sharma will send around a Doodle Poll for a June meeting.

Glenna moved to adjourn, Liz seconded the motion.

Paul Brierley AYE
Rocco Cardinale
Patty Emmert AYE
Leslie Fox AYE
Elyse Guidas AYE
Cassie Lyman
Glenna McCollum-Cloud AYE
Dave Richins
Rafael Tapia AYE
Elizabeth Taylor AYE
Kami Weddle AYE

The meeting adjourned.