



Arizona Department of Agriculture

Office of the Director
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Approved MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL (FAPAC)

Minutes
MEETING HELD ON Wednesday, November 8 2017
1688 W. Adams Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

1. Call to Order Sine Kerr, Chair
2. Roll Call Sharma Torrens

In-Person FAPAC Members: Sine Kerr (Chair); Leslie Fox, Kara Egbert, David Martinez III, Paul Brierley
Via Telephonic Appearance FAPAC Members: Rocco Cardinale, Nikki Bagley, Elizabeth Taylor, Cassie Lyman

AZDA: Chris McCormack; Michele Mellott; Sharma Torrens

Other Persons: Keith Watkins; Anthony Kamson; Kim Wolfe

3. Approval of September 6, 2017 Minutes Sine Kerr

Paul moved to accept the September 6, 2017 Minutes as presented, Kara seconded the motion. The FAPAC unanimously approved.

4. Keith Watkins, AZ Commerce Authority, Presentation Sine Kerr

Keith Watkins, Senior VP for Economic and Rural Development for the AZ Commerce Authority (ACA) presented. ACA's mission is to help the job base in Arizona expand, with a general focus on industrial businesses (but with a focus on small businesses as well). The ACA helps businesses here expand, helps businesses come here and works to increase awareness.

There are qualifying jobs tax credits for employers creating new quality jobs in Arizona and making a capital investment in this state. Additionally, for manufacturing facilities that are looking to expand or relocate in Arizona, there is a qualified tax credit. It all comes down to the definition of "manufacturing" and the NAICS number (with the Department of Revenue).

5. FAPAC Recommendations Presented to Director Killian Discussion Sine Kerr
(Information, discussion and action)
 - Next Phase of Recommendations

Sharma updated the FAPAC on the submission of these recommendations to Director Killian. In a letter to Director Killian, Sharma noted the eight recommendations by the FAPAC, as well as the four themes of the recommendations. The letter was submitted on October 5, 2017. And the PowerPoint that David provided was attached to this letter.

The FAPAC would like the letter to cross-reference the pages in the PowerPoint since the PowerPoint is far more detailed. Additionally, in the last paragraph under (B), when referencing the terms in parenthesis, the FAPAC would like the terms,

“including, but not limited to” added to this. Further, the letter should be signed by Sine as the Chair of the FAPAC. Further, the letter should note that these are short-term goals and that the FAPAC is working on mid to long-term goals as well (not mentioned in the letter).

Sharma will make the aforementioned changes and send the letter to Sine for review.

- Working Group Discussion

Because Director Killian entered the room, Sine decided to jump to agenda item #7. See the below.

Since the subcommittees were dissolved, Sine wanted the FAPAC to discuss creating working groups.

Chris noted that the working groups are temporary in nature, are given an assignment, they complete the assignment, report back to the FAPAC, and then they no longer exist. These working groups should contain less persons than would be needed for the FAPAC to have quorum.

After discussion, the FAPAC decided to create the following four working groups:

1) Farm Bill Working Group, which will focus on identifying specific parts, processes, and barriers that are either helpful or a hindrance to the FAPAC’s objectives (Paul, David and Leslie);

- A Resource for this group would be the Farm Team, which is a group of various industry, nonprofit, agency persons focused on examining the five titles of the Farm Bill

2) Unified Approaches to State/County Health Regulations and Guidelines Working Group, which will focus on identifying barriers and inconsistencies to state/county regulations and guidelines (Liz, Nikki);

3) Education Working Group, which will focus on staying informed about and be involved in the following: (a) the workshops that will be put on by the AZDA; (b) the Food Summit planning and (c) other educational items of interest (David, Rocco, Leslie);

4) Transportation/Infrastructure Working Group, which will focus on identifying barriers to dealing with food access issues relating to transportation and infrastructure (Liz, David).

6. Discussion on Existing Cooperatives Meeting
(Information, discussion and action)

Sine Kerr

Per the last FAPAC meeting, it was determined that the existing cooperatives should be consulted prior to the FAPAC recommending a change to existing Arizona law regarding cooperatives. A list has been created for the persons representing existing cooperatives that need to be at a meeting. AZDA will hold this meeting.

The FAPAC members are to get a list of names for the meeting to Sharma by the end of the week.

7. Discussion Regarding Churches Being Involved in Efforts
(Information, discussion and action)

Director Killian

Director Killian told the FAPAC that he would like churches to be included in these collaborative efforts to tackle food access issues. He is meeting with the mayor of Mesa (Mayor Giles) in a few weeks to discuss holding a workshop in Mesa to tell the churches about the FAPAC and its mission.

The FAPAC thought this workshop could be replicated in other areas around the state as well.

Agenda Item #5 was the next topic for discussion.

8. 11/13 AZDA Food Access Apache County Workshop

Sharma Torrens

Sharma updated the FAPAC on the AZDA's upcoming workshop to tackle food access issues. The workshop will be in St. Johns on November 13, 2017. The AZDA has several partners working on this, including Apache County, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, etc. Eighty four persons are registered to attend this event. Director Killian will be there to welcome the attendees.

9. 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.

10. Executive Session

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

The FAPAC did not go into Executive Session.

11. Next Meeting

To Be Determined

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Sharma is to send around a doodle poll to schedule a January meeting.