

DC Food Policy Council Meeting Notes

October 12, 2022

Welcome: Ona acknowledgement of Piscataway Land Acknowledgement

[PISCATAWAY CONOY TRIBE - Home \(piscatawaytribe.org\)](https://piscatawaytribe.org)

FPC Member Attendance:

Ex-Officio Members

- OSSE: Elizabeth Leach
- OP: Ona Balkus, Ashley Stephens, Tariq Sheriff
- DC Health: Sara Beckwith, Jo-Ann Jolly
- DSLBD: Caroline Howe
- DOEE: Kate Lee

Appointed Members

- Ona Balkus – Food Policy Director
- Dalila Boclin
- Rachel Clark
- Kristy McCarron
- James Huang
- Ronnie Webb
- Chris Bradshaw
- Tandra Raye Stephenson

New FPC Members- All have been confirmed and approved and officially on Council

- **Natalia Kalloo (Kalu Organics)**
- **Karyn Bigelow (Creation Justice Ministries)**
- **Rachel Clark (GW Redstone Global Center for Prevention and Wellness)**

Working Group Updates

Nutrition & Health

- Nutrition Education Landscape Assessment is completed by Howard University:
<https://dcfoodpolicy.org/2022/09/27/nutrition-education-landscape-assessment/>
- Recommendations will be completed by December on how the city can expand investment in food and nutrition education
- Working with Food Access and Equity Working Group to create policy brief for School Meals for All
- We are continuing our work on Medicaid reimbursement for medical nutrition therapy and are engaging with stakeholders. More to come on this in the future.

Urban Agriculture 2

- Working group toured the farm at Kelly Miller
 - Folks from Washington Parks and People
 - Anacostia Economic Dev Corp joined in
- In fall will be collab with graduate students at Johns Hopkins with goal to provide guidance to folks on District Zoning on Urban Ag zoning issues and potential improvements
- Kate Lee will represent District at 8th Annual Milan Urban Food Policy Pact Forum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Entrepreneurship & Food Jobs

- Nourish DC Fund led food venture initiative and will be sponsored by this group to have rent paid for 6 months
- Sign up for E&FJ newsletter here: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/kJpWCLg/fpcefi>

Sustainable Supply Chain

- Glasgow Policy Brief put out with Redstone how DC Can address climate change
- Panel Event Thursday, November 10th MLK library at 3pm- more details to come
- Summit held yesterday-Food and Water Resiliency Grant looking at Food and Water Supply Chain Resiliency Disaster Mgt program
 - Will develop tools and resources to track these systems within DC
 - Planning for disaster mitigation through equity lens for all residents in the area

Food Access & Equity

- November 2nd meeting at 4pm will have presentation with DAFL food senior programs
- Lidl opened in Ward 7
 - 2224 Town Center Drive SE, Washington, DC 20020

White House Conference- Tandra Raye-Stephenson WANDA/Chris Bradshaw Dreaming out Loud National Strategy Approach

- Government and philanthropic commits must be made in order to achieve this goal. Need to increase more folks into food programs to ensure hunger goes down
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/White-House-National-Strategy-on-Hunger-Nutrition-and-Health-FINAL.pdf>
- **Pillars discussed as key recommendations to help end food relief by 2030 for all:**
 - Pillar 1—Improve Food Access and Affordability: End hunger by making it easier for everyone—including individuals in urban, suburban, rural, and Tribal communities, and territories—to access and afford food.
 - Pillar 2—Integrate Nutrition and Health: Prioritize the role of nutrition and food security in overall health—including disease prevention and management—and ensure that our health care system addresses the nutrition needs of all people
 - Pillar 3—Empower All Consumers to Make and Have Access to Healthy Choices: Foster environments that enable all people to easily make informed, healthy choices, increase access to healthy food, encourage healthy workplace and school

policies, and invest in public education campaigns that are culturally appropriate and resonate with specific communities

- Pillar 5—Enhance Nutrition and Food Security Research: Improve nutrition metrics, data collection, and research to inform nutrition and food security policy, particularly on issues of equity, access, and disparities.
- Please sign the petition: <http://iamwanda.org/foodbillofrights>
- NYC Food Policy Council provided a great run down to as a cheat sheet: <https://www.nycfoodpolicy.org/food-policy-snapshot-biden-administration-national-strategy-on-hunger>
- **Community Grocery Coop (Why being a member is important)** – Pershona Ambri
 - Owned and controlled by its customers;
 - a way for member-owners to decide on what to do with profits or savings made at the end of the year, such as reinvesting back into the co-op, paid out to its member-owners, or put towards helping other community initiatives;
 - able to give members/customers control over what they want and need in the store while selling those goods at fair and affordable prices; and
 - helping keep local dollars in the community by supporting local farmers and businesses within the community it serves.
 - [Bringing Local, Accessable and Affordable Healthy Food to Neighborhoods East of the River \(communitygrocery.coop\)/](https://communitygrocery.coop/)
 - <https://communitygrocery.coop/become-a-member/>
- **Nourish Collaborative Update, Alison Powers, Capital Impact Partners**
 - Purpose:
 - Development of a robust ecosystem of locally-owned food businesses, neighborhood vibrancy, and health equity in DC communities.
 - Support economic prosperity and high-quality job creation.
 - Target Geography:
 - Neighborhoods underserved by grocery and other food businesses that have experienced systematic underinvestment, poor health outcomes, and limited economic opportunities.
 - Target Audience:
 - Locally-owned food businesses with a focus on supporting businesses owned or led by people of color.
 - Grant Application Open: October 26, 2022
 - Grant Informational Webinars:
 - October 27, 2022 1pm-2pm
 - November 10, 202 6pm-7pm
 - Grant Application Deadline: 11:59pm ET, November 20, 2022
 - Applicant Notification: December 31, 2022 (if they will move on to the next stage of the grant selection process)
 - Funds Disbursed: Q2 2023
 - For more information contact: Alison Powers apowers@capitalimpact.org

- To access the grant application, information about the program, or to fill out an inquiry form please visit: <https://www.capitalimpact.org/nourishdc>

- **Food Recovery & Food Waste Updates:** Caroline Howe, Department of Small and Local Business Development Jeremy Brosowsky, Compost Cab
 - 22 Grants Awarded to fund innovative food waste reduction programs
 - 57 Waste Assessments delivered
 - 20 Food Business composting through FWIG composting credits
 - 76K of food waste delivered from landfill
 - 95 tons of CO2 converted

 - Compostaje Casero (Home Composting in Spanish):
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/taller-del-compostaje-casero-learn-how-to-home-compost-in-spanish-tickets-416835083957>
 - CAFB & RecycleLeaders, including recipes, activities, and more:
 - [Making the Most of Food: Regrow, Reduce, Recycle Tickets, Tue, Oct 18, 2022 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)
 - [Minimizing Food Waste at Home Tickets, Mon, Oct 17, 2022 at 5:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)
 - [Food Waste 101: A Roadmap to Achieving 50% Reduction by 2030 Tickets, Mon, Oct 17, 2022 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)
 - For more information: <https://dmvfoodrecoveryweek.org/>

- **FPC Announcements:**
 - Friday, November 4, 10-11am: Monthly Food Policy Office Hours (1st Friday of every month: Email dcfoodpolicy@dc.gov to sign up)
 - Wednesday, December 7, 5-6pm: Next FPC Public Meeting (virtual)
 - To join a Working Group listserv, email the WG chairs or dcfoodpolicy@dc.gov