CENTRAL KOOTENAY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

Full Council Meeting
10 July 2018
by teleconference

Present: Ramona Faust, Ari Derfel, Kim Charlesworth, Chelsey Jones, Paris Marshall Smith, Elizabeth Quinn, Mickey Wojnarowski, Allan Broom, Kevin Murphy, Lana Braun, Tara Stark, Abra Brynne (staff).
Regrets: Shauna Fidler, Mick Wilson, Aimee Watson, Nicole Schreiber, Rob Hay, Melinda Foot, Patrick Steiner.
Notes: Abra
Chair: Ari

1. Welcome: Ari welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes from 9 May 2018 meeting: highlights reviewed by Abra. **Motion** to adopt the minutes as circulated. Moved: Elizabeth / Seconded Mickey. Passed by consensus.

3. Executive Committee confirmation: Ari President, Patrick Vice President, Elizabeth Treasurer, Melinda Secretary, and Mickey Member at Large. Appreciation was expressed for those who agreed to be on the Executive Committee. **Motion** to adopt the proposed slate and positions. Moved: Ramona / Seconded Paris. Passed by consensus.

4. Governance Items:

Review and discussion of the proposed Bylaw changes as per the red text inserted into the current Bylaws. **Motion** to approve the proposed changes to the Bylaws. Moved: Elizabeth / Seconded Mickey. Passed by consensus.

Policy Manual section 3.2 - Elizabeth, the Council Treasurer, spoke to the policy changes and supports them. **Motion** to approve the revised policies in section 3.2 of the Policy Manual. Moved: Kim / Seconded: Mickey. Passed by consensus.

5. Executive Committee Update: Ari reviewed highlights of the last Executive Committee meeting: information sharing platform for the Council, financials, the shift of Council activities, now that the Directory is in circulation, back to more of a policy focus…… Various items were discussed at greater length:

- To support success of each new Council in adopting G-Suite for non-profits as the information sharing platform it will be good to develop some training materials.
- Discussion about determining our fiscal year, with general agreement to align it with the calendar year if the Society Act allows.
- Agreement to circulate the Executive Committee meeting minutes to the full Council (and upload them onto the google platform)
- Interest in the idea of creating materials to support local procurement by area local governments and institutions etc. Paris shared the information that CBT and the RDCK are both exploring local procurement. Ramona found a guide for local procurement in BC and will share with the rest of the Council.

- Need to understand the policy needs / gaps in the area. Ramona proposed that a good summer student project could be to mine the KPU food policy database. Abra described the policy FAQs for food producers that is underway and will be further supported by the policy working group. Abra to follow up meeting with an email to Council to invite those who wish to join the policy working group; Ari and Abra to draft something to present to people to guide our policy work planning.
- Agreement that the Policy Working Group is the current priority. Participants interested in the Policy WG: Paris, Elizabeth, Kim, Tara (to be reconvened in Sept), Ari as the Exec liaison.
- Discussion about the KPU Basin bioregional study proposal. Question if funding to KPU for this study means that local groups may loose out; does KPU hire / work with local organizations and individuals to enhance local capacity, not just study it. Tara indicated that her IH team colleagues are quite happy with the Okanagan KPU project, which has recently produced a great institutional procurement document. Abra spoke to the value of having strong academic partners and that these may be possible internal to our region or with KPU. Ramona indicated that Kent spoke at a previous the AKBLG and there was a certain level of interest in the bioregional approach to help coordinate across the region. Garry Jackman is interested and extended an invitation to Kent to be more involved. Selkirk College has a strong mapping program and she would like to see partnerships but despite many years of discussion has not seen capacity and the ability to overcome the challenges of geography. To date, we have pieces but not a coherent approach. Abra to reach out to contacts in the Okanagan about their experience of the KPU project.

6. Coordinator Update:
   - Abra updated the Council on the Directory distribution, reach and reception, which has been very positive. She recently also collected the print job of postcards that Shauna designed that target two audiences in promoting the Directory (online and print): one for eaters and another for farmers and food processors to encourage them to participate next year. There was a hold up in the postcard print job due to technical difficulties and so IAF agreed to extend the deadline for our project to the middle of august.
   - She has begun background research on food business regulatory FAQs to help lower barriers for those who wish to produce or purchase local food.

7. Council Member updates

   - Ramona – raspberries and strawberries in abundance; has gotten really good feedback on the Directory; the RDCK has several food related food initiatives underway; Harrop has a tiny but vibrant farmers market. Real Estate Foundation is part of the Food for Thought events that are coming up.
   - Kim – Nelson Food Cupboard – food access, lots exciting happening. They are becoming a Food Centre in partnership with Community Food Centres Canada, which will enable them to enhance their programming, including skills, access, cooking in the garden for youth etc. They have expanded their space in the United Church basement; the land where the garden is has been put up for sale

but they have a year's notice and are exploring other options, including at Trafalgar School; they are also looking at using the boulevard outside the United Church into a gardening space. Abra commented that the Council can provide a letter of support for such efforts – Kim will email information to help with letter content.

- Paris – involved with Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisors where things have been very busy, providing one-on-one support. They are going to circulate a newsletter one year in, that would include things like the new diseases that are popping up in the region; RDCK is producing an SRM report that will be available at the end of July; RDCK conducted an Ag Land Use Inventory last year – they have created a website story map that makes the information more user friendly and dynamic. Planning office is doing an ag land use review in Creston Valley Areas A, B & C. Paris will be going to the Place-Based Food System conference in Richmond next month.
- Chelsey – from Lardeau Valley Opportunity LINKS society, which has targeted ag as the primary economy for many area residents. They have just completed an ag showpiece, which is a four page mini-directory that was circulated in the Pennywise. They are supporting the markets and festivals in the area, and doing a subsidy program for Area D for farmers in the area.
- Elizabeth – Fields Forward – mobile press is up and running (cherry harvest a week behind), then shift to apples. They are hosting an evening meeting for farmers in the Valley to form a coop (10 farmers are interested) who will be supported to form a board. They have applied for funding for the online marketplace to IAF and have a matching promise from CBT – this is a pilot that could be applied to other regions as well. Her other hat is Economic Devt Partnership– they have 3 pillars in their strategic plan, one of which is ag. They are looking at applying for funding for value-added processing.
- Mickey – the market is busy; growing amount of people wanting to buy local and support Canadian products are a result of the trade war; the Directory has been very well received in the Nakusp area and is a great conversation starter. Received a visit from the Farm Advisors that was great.
- Tara – Interior Health is working with RDKB on their food and ag plan implementation; also working with the Lower Columbia Food & Ag Society; IH continues to work on the feasibility study for regional food security network models. Our Food Policy Council is being studied as a model that seems to be working – Tara may interview Council members down the road. Looking at how to reduce barriers for local food in IH facilities, drawing on good models such as those in Haida Gwaii.
- Kevin – Ministry of Ag had two consultations so far this year– one on the ALC, and one on meat inspection. There was good input at both in the Kootenays. He is working with KBFA on some workshops. KOGS is putting on a seed production workshop this Sunday. Oct 20th there will be a sheep and goat health workshop in the Slocan Valley with a specialist from the Min of Ag. CBT and Min of Ag have been talking about a food hub in the area but he has had no recent updates on that. East Kootenay Regional District is doing a mock emergency exercise next Monday that will include the ag sector.
- Ari – just had a wedding and was amazing to serve BC food to his American guests. Was grateful to the Coop who just built their smoker and he had the first

smoked product, a brisket, used for his wedding. Also commended Lana at Hummingbird Farm for the beautiful flowers they used at the wedding.

- Ramona – RDCK has explored some emergency protocols and preparedness; suggested that the Council could put up on its website some info on animal removal and what a plan needs to look like. Could link to the emergency BC website / info.

Adjourned.

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Minutes circulated to September 21st, 2018 meeting of the Council. Minutes adopted by consensus.