

# Joint City/County Food System Policy Board



## **Draft Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, November 10, 2021  
5:30 PM

Grace Knight Conference Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 12 SE First Street  
County Administration Building  
Gainesville, FL 32601

**Commissioner Desmon Duncan-Walker (Vice-Chair)**

**Commissioner Reina Saco**

**Commissioner Anna Prizzia (Chair)**

**Commissioner Mary Alford**

(Members Pending Interlocal Adoption and Confirmation)

**Dr. Vilma Fuentes, Santa Fe College**

**Dr. Catherine G. Campbell, UF/IFAS**

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12 SE First Street  
Gainesville, FL 32601

## CALL TO ORDER - 5:30 PM

**ROLL CALL** - Commissioner Anna Prizzia (Chair), Commissioner Desmon Duncan-Walker (Vice-Chair), Commissioner Reina Saco

Other attendees: Satori Days, Bob Swain, Nancy Darren, Catherine Cambell, Kathleen Pagan, Diedre Houchen, Karissa Raskin, Sean McLendon, Vilma Fuentes, Brandy Stone, Bobbie Griffith, Kali Blount

**REVIEW OF AGENDA** - Vice-Chair Duncan-Walker motioned to approve the agenda. Commissioner Saco seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 8, and OCTOBER 13, MINUTES** - Commissioner Saco motioned to approve the minutes. Vice-Chair Duncan-Walker seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**CONFIRMATION OF UF/IFAS APPOINTMENT Dr. Catherine G. Campbell** - Commissioner Saco motioned to confirm Dr. Campbell for the UF/IFAS position effective for the December 3rd Joint Food System Board Meeting. Vice-Chair Duncan-Walker seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**CONFIRMATION OF SANTA FE COLLEGE APPOINTMENT Dr. Vilma Fuentes** - Commissioner Saco motioned to confirm Dr. Fuentes for the Santa Fe College position effective for the December 3rd Joint Food System Board Meeting. Vice-Chair Duncan-Walker seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 1. Update Foodshed Map** - Sean McLendon, Alachua County, provided a brief update and referred the board to the October presentation for more detail. [Link to youtube](#). Karissa Raskin, City of Gainesville, would like to see UF Dr. Adam Watson's Ph.D. student - Bhagat Sangha's research and data from his Food Hub Feasibility Study included in the Foodshed Map. And the City's food system team may have updated data on the food assistance/pantry providers to add to the Foodshed map soon. They are verifying data to ensure that they are still active.

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### **2. Healthy Corner Store Collaboration Model Presentation and Discussion - Dr. Houchen provided an overview of the Collaboration Model. The model would:**

- Establish a working group to create a pilot, plan, and process that will effectively provide healthy options at local corner stores, particularly in communities that face inequities related to income and health outcomes.
- The working group will consist of 2-3 corner store owners or managers, County staff, potentially City staff, and 1-2 citizen volunteers.
- The Joint City/County Food System Policy Board will recommend corner store owners or broad locations to recruit grocery store owner participants from within.
- The working group will meet approximately five (5) times to accomplish the following:
  - Introduction of healthy corner store initiative and provision of background information
  - Corner store owner/manager initial concerns and needs, potential incentives, priorities, and desires
  - Investigation of a pilot model, cost, budget, and budgetary needs
  - technical issues related to point of sale or other merchandise
  - inventory of potential food options and cost-benefit analysis
  - model for consumer feedback and participatory feedback
- Draft Project Timeline - subject to modification.
  - November-January - Visit other communities to recruit/identify corner stores
  - February - Assemble Collaborative Group
  - February-May - Five (5) meetings with Collaborative Group
  - June - Final Report to Joint Food Policy Council

Karissa Raskin and Brandy Stone, City of Gainesville, highlighted Maimi Gardens. Florida example of a successful healthy corner store program. Their presentation was an excerpt from the September Joint Food System Policy Board presentation. The program has a tiered certification system with an application subcommittee that reviews businesses interested in participating. Locally, Dr. Waite has done work in this area and has access to data through the Health Deprivation Model looking at health disparities and is willing to share information. [Grace Grows](#) is working on a participatory food access plan model that might inform the corner store project. They are nearing the end of their first data collection phase to inform a plan.

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Commissioner Saco requested a list of Miami Gardens example stores. Karissa Raskin provided a link to the list in the [chat](#).

Vice-Chair Duncan Walker - mentioned the layered challenges of working with corner stores owners, community health impacts of typical convenience store offerings, underlying social challenges, pedestrian safety issues that co-occur with lack of healthy food options. Commissioner Duncan is interested in addressing all these issues in how they engage with these stores and creating a mechanism to communicate the health issues in the surrounding community.

Chair Prizzia is interested in building working relationships with these stores such that progress on food issues will lead to future collaboration on other issues. She would also welcome a presentation from Grace Grows on their participatory model at a future Joint Board meeting. Related to community health and mental illness issues, the [City](#) and [County's](#) Community Paramedicine Programs may be part of a comprehensive health solution. Regarding establishing a future budget for the program, it is essential to compensate the store owners for participating in the project. The County has resources and wanted to make sure there was a consensus for this effort.

Dr. Houchen would like to come back to the Board with a more detailed description of the goals of the collaborative process of the working group with data and analysis related to consumer health in low-income communities. The model will craft meaningful engagement in these working group's five meetings that will set an honest and truthful tone in our collaborative efforts. These honest, open relationships will be important for co-developing health datasets information tools, so there is shared ownership of the tools and outcomes. We will also need to be aware of consumer choices from corner stores in that some may be the only available means of addressing addiction and mental health problems. Any prohibition will have to think comprehensively about alternatives or prohibitions to create unintended consequences for these at-risk persons. Staff also welcome conversations with Board members on any information about specific corner stores that will assist the collaborative model's impact.

Either at the December or January meeting, staff will come back with a more detailed proposal and subsequently launch the program next month.

City and County staff will have organization meetings through December in preparation for a January conversation of the refined model in January.

Dr. Fuentes is interested in how the model engages with the community and recommends reaching out to faith-based groups as a safe space to propose

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solutions. In addition, she is curious to see if funding sources are still available such as the [CDC REACH grants](#).

Dr. Campbell suggested that a [NEMS survey](#) for corner stores may be helpful to inventory store offerings and could be a complementary effort.

Kali Blount recommended that the City and County engage the GCRA in supporting this program's infrastructure needs/facade grants. He suggests the Board look at the northeast corner SE 7th Ave and SE 8th Street for a location. This cinder block building was formerly a corner store. He also recommended a collaborative effort with UF 's Dr. Tucker to engage with student volunteers to talk to store owners about community health issues. He also recommends approaching the project in phases.

- 3. Community Grocery Update** - This item may be brought back to the December 3rd Board meeting.
- 4. Update Good Food Purchasing Program** - The Good Food Purchasing Program reached out to Aramark and requested data to begin analysis. It is hoped that all research will be complete before the Summer of 2022 in time for the Jail RFP for a food service vendor.
- 5. Community Education: Update on the Plant of the Month** - the plant of the month for November is [onions](#).

### MEMBERS COMMENTS

**ADJOURN** - The meeting adjourned at 7 PM.

### Upcoming 2021 and 2022 JFSPB Workshop Meetings

10 AM December 3, 2021  
5:30 PM January 12, 2022  
5:30 PM February 9, 2022  
5:30 PM March 9, 2022