



City of Damascus

19920 SE Highway 212
Damascus, OR 97089

www.ci.damascus.or.us

Phone: 503-658-8545
Fax: 503-658-5786

Summary Minutes

Edible Community: The Healthy Damascus Food Plan
Kaiser Grant Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
December 1, 2011

Members/Guests Present: D.W. Owens, Beth Cohen, Gayle McCoy, Peter Lent, Dr. Victoria Larson, Margaret McNamara, Laura Parsons, Beret Halverson, Don Leethem, Barb Ledbury

Members Absent: Larry Thompson, James Erb, Dawn Syring, Paul Chambers

City Staff Present: Dan O'Dell, Steve Gaschler, Erika Palmer, Elise Scolnick.

Consultant: Amy Gilroy, Oregon Public Health Institute

- I. **Introductions:** Participants went around the table and introduced themselves and spoke about their background in food-related issues.
- II. **Overview of Grant and Purpose:** Facilitator Elise Scolnick narrated a presentation on how the City of Damascus came to apply for the Kaiser Permanente "Access to Healthy Food" Community Initiatives grant. She explained that the grant is a 3-year, 3-phase project to 1) assess the access to healthy foods, 2) facilitate community building through projects that will increase access to those foods, and, 3) to draft a "Healthy Damascus Food Plan" with policies that can support maintaining and improving access to healthy foods that could eventually be adopted by the City. She identified the demographics of the Damascus-Boring communities and what issues impacted the access to food in the area.

Dan O'Dell, Damascus City Manager, spoke about why Boring was added to the grant target area. He explained how the two communities are tied together and that Boring is urbanizing and part of the future urban reserves.
- III. **Role of Technical Advisory Committee:** Ms. Scolnick defined the scope of the work of the TAG, which includes meeting during Phases 1 and 3. During Phase 1 the TAG will help define what kind of assessment should be done to identify the needs, conditions and opportunities within the community for healthy food access. In Phase 3, the TAG, along with the Community Advisory Committee, will help formulate specific policies for the "*Healthy Damascus Food Plan*".
- IV. **Identify Needs:** Discussion took place on the need to identify existing resources, who would and should care, who needs to be included and who benefits from the project, as well as assessing community support for the Plan. See attached matrix of items identified by the committee.

Consultant Amy Gilroy gave an overview of the Oregon Public Health Institute and similar previous project they have been involved in. She presented additional information about hunger and the needs within Clackamas County and the Damascus-Boring area, as well as Healthy Eating, Active Living policy scans in various communities.

- V. **Defining Assessment Tools:** Ms. Gilroy presented a slideshow on the different types of assessment tools that are available to help the community in the assessment process. This overview was to help committee members think about what type of assessment would be most informative, effective and most cost efficient, given the budget, within the Damascus-Boring area. At the next month or so, the TAG will be asked to make recommendations on the type of assessment to be done.

- VI. **Identifying Existing Resources:** Erika Palmer, Senior Planner, spoke about past work the City of Damascus has done with the Civic Ecology group on food issues, explaining how this work can be integrated into the future work to be done.

Ms. Scolnick informed the TAG about another grant the City is working on; The Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) grant is to identify the Portland Area Metropolitan Foodshed, challenges and opportunities for urban agriculture and developing a toolkit to help producers, processors, distributors and others in the food sector best maintain and enhance food production and access. This grant is closely related to the Kaiser grant and outcomes may be used in future phases of the Kaiser grant work.

The TAG reviewed a map of existing food providers prepared by the City. The committee was asked to place stickers on addition food sources that were in the community, but not identified on the map. The map will be updated with the new information and provided to the committee via email.

- VII. **Tasks and Timeline:** Ms. Scolnick passed out a draft project schedule for Phase 1 to the TAG. The schedule will be refined when a contract is signed with the consultant.

She asked the TAG to review the handouts, specifically the matrix that asks about identifying stakeholders, communicating progress and interim steps of change and policy adoption milestones. An electronic copy will be sent to TAG members so they can fill these out and send them back to Elise prior to the next TAG meeting.

- VIII. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the TAG will be **Thursday, April 19, 2011, 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at Damascus City Hall, 19920 SE Hwy 212.** An agenda will be sent out approximately 2 weeks before the next meeting.

Stakeholder Exercise for TAG – 12/1/2011

Who cares about this project?	Who benefits from the project?	Who needs to be involved in Phase 1 and other phases?	What is the feasibility for support of this project in the community?
Those who need food	Those who need food	Siri Farms, Thompson Farms	Some in community may challenge as they don't see themselves benefiting
Producers/farmers	Producers/farmers	SNAP/WIC outreach workers	What IS support? Define. What does it mean? Fiscal, social?
Those who serve the community	Schools	School District nutrition specialists	Need to talk about project in an interconnected, non-partisan way.
The County & other policy makers, i.e. Damascus City Council	Those in need of jobs	Local churches	Social service groups would support.
Schools	Families	Coordinators with other services, i.e. Sunshine Division, SnoCap	Community-building exercise to bring folks together
Youth	Homeless	Low income community members	Harvest dinner for community
Existing/new stores	People who are ill who don't know it	Medical providers, doctors	Support for Christ the Vine Lutheran Church's community garden, open to public
Those who shop for food		Fitness professionals	Businesses/new biz opportunists
People who are ill who don't know it		Representatives from diverse groups in the community	Gleaners
Business owners participating in nutrition programs			
Future area residents			
Boring residents, those lacking transportation (food desert)			
People who need help but need to reach Damascus to get it			
Home gardeners			
People who want to age in place here			
Seniors			
Farm workers			
Communications networks (identify)			