

Draft FSTF Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2024

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

[Click here to view the meeting recording](#)

Present: Paula Jones (SFDPH – Food Security/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity); Guillermo Reece (San Francisco African American Faith-Based Coalition); Jade Quizon (API Council); Tiffany Kearney (Department of Disability and Aging Services); Chester Williams (Community Living Campaign); Geoffrey Grier (SF Recovery Theater); Jennifer LeBarre (SFUSD); Emily Cohen (SF Dept. of Homelessness and Supportive Housing); Anne Quaintance (Conard House); Mei Ling Hui (Urban Agriculture Program); Hannah Grant (Meals on Wheels SF); Lura Jones (Leah’s Pantry); Meg Davidson (San Francisco-Marin Food Bank); Michelle Kim (Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families)

Also Present: La Rhonda Reddic (SFDPH/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity); Eric Chan (SFDPH/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity); Rebeca Flores (SFDPH/Office of Anti-Racism & Equity); Colleen Rivecca (TNDC); Kaela Plank (Center for Data Science/SFDPH); Anthony Kalil (BVHP Community Advocates); Danielle Lundstrom (SFDPH – SNAP-Ed); Fiona McBride (Citywide Food Access Team/HSA); Janna Cordeiro (Food as Medicine Collaborative); Jennifer Bolen (Supervisor Preston’s Office); Josue Ruiz (Facente Consulting); Shelley Facente (Facente Consulting); Kalil Macklin (Anthem Blue Cross); Kimberly Jower (SFDPD Shelter Health); Melinda Burrus (Leah’s Pantry); Tommy McClain (Citywide Food Access Team/HSA); Whitney Francis (WCLP); Cathy Huang (HSA); Tiffany Chung

Agenda Item	Discussion	Next Steps
1. Call order to order 1:30 p.m.	Call to order at 1:35 p.m.	None.
2. Land Acknowledgment 1:30 p.m.	Eric Chan recited the Land Acknowledgement.	None.
3. Welcome, member roll call, introductions, Cissie Bonini (Chair, EatSF/Vouchers 4 Veggies) 1:35 p.m.	Eric Chan did roll call and Cissie Bonini introduced the agenda. Public Comment: None.	None.
4. Approval of minutes from April 3, 2024 1:40 p.m.	Anne Quaintance made motion to approve meeting minutes. Chester Williams seconded the motion. Public Comment: None.	None.

	<p>Majority task force members voted to approve motion. 3 task force members abstained.</p> <p>Motion has passed and minutes are approved.</p>	
5. General Public Comment 1:45 p.m.	No public comment.	None.
6. Food Security – Current Events/Legislation, Jennifer Bolen (Supervisor Dean Preston’s Office) 1:50 p.m.	<p>Jennifer Bolen provided some updates on current events and legislation related to food security. On April 5th, 2024 the board unanimously passed a resolution calling for a full service grocery store in the Tenderloin. The second resolution the board unanimously passed was to urge the governor and state legislature to retain full funding for Market Match through the CNIP program. The last piece of legislation was the Grocery Protection Act, which is an ordinance to amend the code to require large supermarkets to give a six-month notice to customers and the City before permanently closing. This came in response to the Fillmore Safeway giving a one month notice before they were going to close, and is the neighborhood’s only full service grocery store. This ordinance is a revival of an ordinance that was introduced 40 years ago when the Safeway in the Tenderloin closed down with one week’s notice. It was passed by the board and vetoed by then Mayor Feinstein.</p> <p>Geoffrey Grier: I am glad that Dean Preston is pushing forward in the Tenderloin. There should be a more aggressive task taken regarding the creation of a food desert in the Fillmore. Unfortunately we have to depend on that corporate entity (Safeway) for sustainability but there should be a more aggressive task taken because there are people directly affected by this.</p> <p>Chester Williams: I agree with Geoffrey. Being an old native of the Fillmore and knowing that Safeway was there ever since I was a little child, it has a major impact. I remember the fights we had with that Safeway about bringing the store up to par for the community. Let us know what help you need.</p>	None.

	<p>Anne Quaintance: Have you reached out to any potential grocery markets? Are there any partners out there?</p> <p>Jennifer Bolen: We're asking Planning to identify potential sites for a grocery store. We haven't done formal outreach, but have done informal outreach. They opened up a Lucky's in the Bayview, of what used to be a Walgreens. There are these abandoned Walgreens in the Tenderloin, so there are these asks but we want to make sure we have this community discussion to see what the community wants. We don't want to bring in another Whole Foods that's not going to thrive. Marin City just a Grocery Outlet, so maybe we can do something like that. We put into the resolution as well or planted the seeds of an idea for a municipally owned grocery store. We're also looking into food co-ops as well. There have been informal discussions, but nothing about bringing in a large chain just because we want to make sure that we're finding out what the community actually wants and needs.</p> <p>For the Fillmore Safeway, there have been a handful of community discussions led by HRC and OEWD. Our office wrote the resolution to urge Safeway not to close, so we were able to get them to stay through January 2025. We recently made a one sheet of the most recent update in advance of the NAACP meeting and I can share that with the task force so that you can share it out with members.</p> <p>Anne Quaintance: Is EBT in there?</p> <p>Jennifer Bolen: (Nods yes).</p> <p>Geoffrey Grier: Regarding the Tenderloin, you might need to include some of these big players like TNDC, THC, and a few others. They have the means, the property, and they are able to make this thing happen a little more rapidly than going through the bureaucratic ritual. This should be classified under the Public Health Department as an emergency quite frankly. You need the pair the</p>	
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	<p>importance of having a grocery store in the Tenderloin without a stall or gap of the Safeway in the Fillmore. I don't think people realize what that's going to do.</p> <p>Paula Jones: Thank you for sharing this information and coming to this meeting. Please definitely keep this body informed and we'll definitely push out all the information. I don't know if you know, but the Department of Public Health worked very closely with the FSTF to issue the first 2023 Biennial Food Security & Equity Report. Let us know if you want a hard copy, Eric can get that to you. There are other threats coming. In addition to these closures and cut off of state funds, we have things we know are happening too. We really appreciate the partnership and look forward to continuing to work together.</p> <p>Meg Davidson (online comment): Really interesting case study on a Public Grocery option in FL via Economic Security Project: https://economicsecurityproject.org/wp-content/uploads/Public-Options-Case-Studies.pdf</p> <p>Paula Jones: Jennifer you'll be sending out the one pager?</p> <p>Jennifer Bolen: Yes, we can share the one-pager, I can email it to Paula. We heard from some of partners in MegaBlack that they felt a little in the dark about where things were with everything. That way people can see where things are and ways to plug in with these ongoing Fillmore food safety meetings.</p> <p>Public Comment: None.</p>	
<p>7. Update on subcommittee on Reimagining Food Coordination, Jade Quizon (Subcommittee Chair, API Council) and Facente Consulting 2:10 p.m.</p>	<p>Please refer to the recording for this agenda item, linked at the top of this document. This agenda item starts at the 25:35 minute mark and ends at the 1:16:00 minute mark. Please find the presentation used for this agenda item linked here.</p> <p>Facente Consulting gave a presentation on what the Food Security Task Force subcommittee worked on and discussed during the two April subcommittee meetings (April 15 and 24). Facente gave an overview on progress and process timeline and the criteria used to score food structure components. The</p>	

subcommittee determined that the Mayor's Office is the most ideal but is not plausible right now given upcoming elections and the long-term advocacy that would likely be needed. The subcommittee settled on a structure that has an interdepartmental city office and an advisory council to the Board of Supervisors, Mayor, and City Departments. The subcommittee did not have time to discuss and develop details for the interdepartmental city office but was able to lay out details for the advisory council/public body. Another conversation that needs to be held is how these structures will be incorporating community feedback and food-based coalitions into decision-making.

Anne Quaintance: Are there current SF advisory councils that we can look to as models, along with compensation structures?

Shelley Facente: I don't know of any in San Francisco. We used the task force as a base. Whether in San Francisco or elsewhere, it would be helpful to bring in other examples of advisory councils that are closer to what we are talking about.

Anne Quaintance: I recall there's a childcare advisory council but from a long time ago, but don't want to make any recommendations as I know nothing about it. Is there a way to tweak what we already have as a task force so that the road isn't so challenging and change it according to what we've looked at?

Cissie Bonini: The negative side to advisory councils is that it can be seen as not effective and creating more bureaucracy, so we want to be careful to avoid any of that and is very much at the forefront of many folks in the city.

Shelley Facente: I want to respond to Anne's question about compensation. I'm not sure about the exact mechanisms for a public body, and that's one of the things we can look at and figure out. I've worked with some bodies in San Francisco that aren't officially public bodies but function similarly but do get a stipend. There has to be a protocol, what boxes have to be checked and tracked clearly, but it might be different from a public body.

Paula Jones: On the topic of a council being too bureaucratic, I don't know if there's really a distinction between councils, task forces, etc. any kind of public body in terms of how their viewed. Anne brought up a good point of is there something out there that is similar to what we are talking about? When I first saw the notes, I was pretty shocked at the number of people that would be part of it as it would be really hard to wrangle.

Public Comment:

Anthony Khalil: I want to thank the subcommittee for carrying a lot of water for this body, and to Shelley for the professional touch. This reminds me of my experience serving on an advisory body of 50+ folks on climate change adaptation for the whole Bay Area. My thoughts on models 5 and 6 (non-profit), I feel like that situation is the cart is ready before the horse because some of that is already happening in the city and wondering if that was brought up. The FFACTS coalition was already brought up, I admire the work that they're doing. Some of these choices are being made already, and it affects other communities immensely, and there's inequity within that. I just want to put that on the table, just equity within how food security responses are distributed throughout the city.

Shelley Facente: I don't think a lot of that came up in the discussion and will certainly bring that forth in the next subcommittee.

Jade Quizon: We did do an SF landscape analysis, so we know that these other organizations do exist, so we need to figure out how they fit into the structure. Almost every single place we've interviewed has a community coalition. We need that external watchdog to apply the pressure and keep our elected officials accountable. I would like to invite you the next subcommittee meeting.

Fiona McBride: How do the two elevated models rank across the criteria compared to the other models?

	<p>Shelley Facente: The bolded criteria are the first 15 prioritized ones. Each model categorized criteria based on whether the criteria would definitely be addressed, that could be addressed, and likely not addressed. For example, for model 2 (office within an existing City department), criteria 1, 2, and 3 fell in the criteria likely not addressed, where as model 4 had the top three criteria as criteria definitely addressed. Between the two elevated models, they pretty much hit all criteria, but neither on their own hit all the priority criteria.</p>	
<p>8. Updates and emerging issues 2:40 p.m.</p>	<p>Jeimil Belamide: As of April 2024, the CalFresh caseload is about 79,000 households, which equals to about 112,000 individuals. The interview requirement returned on April 1st for people applying and re-certifying. We do not know the impact yet on the caseload but we haven't seen any major changes and will continue to monitor. May is CalFresh awareness month in California. If folks are interested in partnering or applying for CalFresh please reach out to me and I can make a connection with our community engagement team. Caseloads are steady, there hasn't been much of a change.</p> <p>Jade Quizon: FFACTS is hosting FFACTS Snacks on May 23rd from 3pm – 5pm at the Blackbird Bookstore and Cafe in the Outer Sunset. I'll share the flyer and registration link when finalized. Yesterday was the California Hunger Action Day; we had a great turnout from folks in SF. We advocated for several bills including the Food as Medicine bill, the food insecurity officer bill, and Market Match. We met with elected officials at the state level and really pushed these priorities. If anyone wants to get involved with the California Hunger Action Coalition, email me.</p> <p>Eric Chan: Paula and I are working on finalizing the 2024 Recommendations Report. We are also working on slides that we will be using to present to the Board of Supervisors as well as department heads and will be working with Cissie's team to coordinate scheduling. This is an open call for task force members to join and be part of those meetings.</p>	<p>None.</p>

Paula Jones: Eric and I are working with another one of our colleagues to create data briefs from the BFSER and we're going to have them produced to partner with organizations and CBOs to share the information.

Jennifer LeBarre: The summer meal program is coming, we have about a month until school is over. Several will be starting on 6/5 but the majority of them will be starting on 6/10. These are meals provided to the community and we will be sharing that link soon once everything is finalized. It's going to be a big program, about 80 school sites will be open and providing meals. They will be open through July 24th.

Priti Rane: An update on WIC, we continue to serve 100% of our allocated state case load. There continues to be a high need. We have a major staffing crisis and are struggling with hiring. If someone were to call right now, it would take four to six weeks to enroll. We have a small but mighty team, but many people are burned out. Training is another six months because that's state mandated training we have to provide. We have to pick who is in more need, and it's a terrible spot to be in but that's the reality. We have a 30% growth before the pandemic and with less staff. We still have the flexibility to remain remote and that has really helped families stay enrolled and get their benefits. The MIHA data is out but there hasn't been much of a change in the food security rates among pregnant folks, which was at like 9.7% which is a little under-counted as it is a self-selected poll. It's not a big change from previous years and I feel that speaks volumes to all the work that was put into San Francisco to make sure families were fed because had that not been the case then I can only imagine what would have happened. The FMNP that got a cut at the USDA level, resulting in a 21% reduction for what California received so that may impact the number of farmers market vouchers that we get this year.

Public Comment:

Colleen Rivecca (online comment): I wanted to share an update on Market Match. Hunger Action Day was yesterday in Sacramento and there were a lot of conversations with legislators about CNIP/Market Match. We will know more

	<p>about the fate of state funding once the Governor's May Revise is released (May 14). There is also a Plan B if state funding isn't approved in time where the Ecology Center may apply for GusNIP/Federal Match directly with private matching dollars. This would provide stopgap funding until 2025 when hopefully state funding can be renewed.</p>	
<p>9. Adjournment 2:50 p.m.</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.</p>	<p>None.</p>