

MISSOULA FOOD POLICY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 18, 2026

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- a. Meeting called to order at 3:35 pm.
- b. In attendance: Jamie Breidenbach, Alex Brown, Blake Lineweaver, Bryce Christiaens, Tom Andres, Sydney Young, Stasia Orkwiszewski, Erika Berglund, Virginia Harris
- Also in attendance: Dana Kingfisher, All Nations

2. Approval of May Agenda

- a. Motion to approve: Alex, Blake seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

3. Approval of April Meeting Minutes

- a. Motion to approve: Jamie, Tom seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

4. Comment on items not on the agenda

- a. None.

5. General Updates

- a. Vacancy Recruitment
 - Tom Andres will be retiring from his position at MCPS, will be at the June meeting, but will then have to relinquish his position on the Board. We wish Tom all the best!

6. New Business/Action Items

- a. Dana Kingfisher, All Nations Health Center – Community Prevention & Health Promotion (CPHP) program
 - All Nations has been around since the 1970's
 - Title 5 programming for urban Indians, Indian Health Services, grant monies
 - Federally Qualified Health Center, sliding fee scale
 - Transportation for medical services and programming (Missoula County, Ravalli, and Mineral County)
 - Medical, Dental, Mental Health, CPHP
 - Four focus areas: substance use prevention, food sovereignty, domestic violence prevention, and chronic disease prevention
 - Eligibility: I.H.S beneficiary living in the area
 - Barriers: transportation, access to food/gas, tools/money to buy tools
 - Youth Engaged in Leadership & Learning (YELL) Program – 18 youth aged 15-18 years old
 - Movement is Medicine program, Elder's Luncheon, Being in Connection with Culture program
 - Summer programming – Farmer's Market, Plant Identification Walk, Food Share distribution (Garden City Harvest & Bitterroot Bison), Medicinal plant + Berry gathering, Garden Box delivery (grant from BCBS), Stories Under the Stars

- Community Health Needs Assessment every three years, coming up in December
 - Question from Alex about surveying community members – Dana said the elders are very vocal
 - Dana also manages the Fry Bread Taco Booth, which has about \$60-70,000 in sales and \$18-20,000 profit during the Fair. Youth and elders are involved in volunteering.
 - Question from Tom about processing bison, Sydney about community days to butcher animals to teach youth, and be more connected to the food they are eating
 - Question from Alex about how All Nations is addressing Food Sovereignty
 - Education and prevention, nutrition, physical activity
 - The current funding is driven from the medical perspective
 - 33% of Indian people have diabetes, and it's projected that in the coming years, up to 50% of people born may have diabetes
 - Question from Blake- Do you partner with CKST Food Sovereignty Program?
 - Gathering Permit
 - Question from Erika – With meal nights and meal kits – where is the food coming from? Garden City Harvest, Costco, or local groceries, Bitterroot Bison.
 - Blake suggested working with Western Montana Growers Co-op
 - All Nations has commercial fridges, but not a full kitchen
 - Eventually, they will have a commissary kitchen.
- b. Community Food Assessment (Bryce, Blake, Erica)
- Need to prepare for the CFA in case the funding comes through (should know by June 15th), limited solicitation for a consultant to help with the Assessment (would need a job description for that, Erika + Blake will work on that)
 - May need to call a special meeting if the funding
 - Some ideas for folks to reach out to: Michal Dechellis, Kate Bernaby-Wright out of Bozeman (Open and Local), Social Work Department at UM, Flaherty Consulting (helped the Food Bank with some of their work)
 - Sub-group formed, "Selection Committee": Blake, Bryce, Jamie, and Virginia
- c. Upcoming Board meetings and revisiting board expectations
- Alex motioned not to hold meetings in July and August, Virginia seconded, contingent upon the funding award for Community Food Assessment. All in favor, motion carried.
 - There will be meetings scheduled as needed when action items must be voted on and discussed.
 - Presentation planning
 - Nathan, City Planning Dept.
 - Alan Maki - Ravalli County Right to Farm and Ranch Board (invite Jenny Zaso to attend when this presenter is scheduled)
 - Erin Austin – Abundant MT

- Board member expectations of role and responsibilities (tabled to June meeting)
- d. Annual newsletters plan (tabled to June meeting)
- e. Climate Ready Missoula – update to Climate Ready Missoula (city/county plan)
 - Information gathering stage to see if potential funding comes through, to gather stakeholders

7. Old Business

- a. CHIP work group update- no update.
- b. Urban Deer Management- biologist at FWP took another job and could not do any work on the Urban Deer plan. Wildlife Manager Liz Bradley is on board. Morgan Valiant is still on board to have FPAB discuss an urban deer plan at the City Council. The support for an urban deer management plan is mostly in the South Side of Missoula, likely to be a pilot program launched in those neighborhoods.
 - Question from Alex – is there a way to partner with All Nations to harvest deer and test them for CWD, and do field dressing and/or butchering demonstrations in addition to partnering with MCPS School House Meats?

8. Round Robin communications/questions

- a. None

9. Next meetings:

- a. Upcoming presenters
 - June 15th – Erin Austin with Abundant Montana or Nathan with the City of Missoula Planning Department

10. Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn at 5:00 pm from Alex, and Tom seconded. All in favor, motion carried.