SFUSD Food and Fitness Committee  
March 8, 2012  
Approved Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Attending: Colleen Kavanagh, Antonia Williams, Judy Teng, Maryann Rainey, Lena Brook, Paula Jones, Christina Goetta, Jessie Mandel DCYF, Amy Portella Nelson, Peter Laughterborn, Janet Wojcicki, Stacey Bartlett, Christina Goette, Kevin Kerr

Not attending: Erika Lovrin, Zetta Reicker

Public Attending: Chris Mattson, Sarah Smith, Dana Woldow, Carolyn Grannan, Teri Ollie

1. Minutes

February were approved with noted changes.

2. School Food Assessment (Teri Olle)

Consultant report is being “socialized” through the District and they are looking forward to making it public.

3. Committee

Committee agreed to add a Communications Chair to the bylaws and should review the bylaws and get back changes to Colleen within a week. Colleen to email out amended bylaws. The communications chair was added to the committee leadership position list. Colleen will email this list within a week and committee members should let her know if they are interested in any of the positions the following week.

4. Wellness Policy Meeting

Task force met and Mark has notes on that meeting. The group brainstormed each section and subsection. Best practices will be included in each section as well as information on data, support, target audience (students, teachers, etc), rationales, assessment, timeline, responsible parties. There will be references to relevant policies. Communication—how will people find out about the policy.

Sections are as follows:

a. USDA programs—eligibility, applications;
b. School food environment--competitive foods, vending, parties, rewards, meal time, adult, physical cafeteria
c. Nutrition Education—gardens, water education
d. Staff Wellness

e. Physical Activity and Education

Christina will head PE/PA portion. She will discuss it in the PE advocate meetings and will invite committee members. SNS needs to be heavily involved in USDA portion. Colleen will head the USDA portion. Mark will do nutrition education and school food.

Next meeting—will try to have call in but need to have right equipment so everyone can hear.

5. Food Truck Vendors

Lena introduced the topic and Supervisor Wiener.

Supervisor Wiener’s testimony: Food trucks are an important part of culture of the city. They bring flexibility for entrepreneurs—requires less up front capital. Business associations came to him concerned about the health of brick and mortar businesses when lots of food trucks come in. Sup. Dufty last year moved the role of truck permits from police purview to DPW. Applications for permits are often much broader than the truck intends to operate. Restaurants were appealing every application to board of appeals and nothing was going well. He brought together interests of business and food trucks. Concern arose about the Mission and the food truck restrictions there. There was concern that with so much of the Mission unavailable for trucks, more trucks would go downtown and they would have too many there. Sup. Wiener talked to some people (unspecified) at the SFUSD Board of Education.

AB 1678 has been proposed to restrict food trucks to 1500 feet away from public and private schools with no exemptions for parks. He passed out a map of implications of AB 1678 in SF. Most of the city is blocked.

He introduced a resolution opposing the legislation and asked for an opt out. He introduced legislation for SF, which calls for 1 city block, approximately 500 feet. Rationale is that schools should be integrated into neighborhoods. Merchants support the schools. Feels the current ordinance overshoots the problem. He doesn’t want to get rid of the restriction altogether but wants to shrink. The 500 feet would be measured from the property line of the school grounds (as in the current ordinance). Small business commission will consider it in April. Will go to Supervisors late April or May.

He is working with Ammiano in opposition of 1678 and met with the bill’s sponsor, Monning, who indicated flexibility. Discussed that 1500 feet in an urban area a lot compared to rural or suburban areas. Legislature will consider on Tuesday.

Has no problem defaulting to next block if the 500 feet falls in the middle of a block.
He spoke with DPW about enforcement. They do not do a great job with enforcement. They are underresourced. He is looking to see if MTA can have a more effective ticketing system that is more effective than the current system.

Paula brought up that changing the law could change the food environment around many schools. Many food trucks are not gourmet and almost prey on the students. The principal at Washington has a buffer around her school that she allows the kids to go. Putting a food truck within that buffer could run counter to this effort.

All MS campuses are closed. Some high schools are closed. Passing food through fence of the school remains illegal. Want to support the school lunch program but also support diversity and choice for community.

Colleen raised that the Supervisors could help SNS by providing funds for NSLP vending machines in high schools. This would help alleviate the long lines in the cafeteria than deter children from eating on campus and reinforce a partnership between the Supervisors and the school board. Wiener said he would talk to Hydra Mendoza about this.

Stacey raised the issue of taking business from SNS and hurting economies of scale. She suggested that going on a case-by-case basis may be better. Sup. Wiener said he was willing to consider this. He is concerned that the administration of that could be challenging but if it can be done effectively, he would consider it.

Peter raised Lincoln has KFC just down the street and the kids swarm there. The radius makes sense and differentiating MS/HS makes sense. Open campus lunch is the issue, and so only an issue at the HS level, but it needs to be considered in context of what brick and mortar availability there is.

Judy asked if they could take a survey of the students to see what they want. Legislation will also be assigned to the youth commission.

Maryann raised the equity issue—kids will divide on economic lines. Truck within 500 feet is attractive. O’Connell is a closed campus and that is where the food is being pushed through the fence. Sup Wiener raised that the equity issue is only at the open campuses.

We do not know how many HS are open campuses and what the open policy is. Wiener offered to obtain this information and it was discussed that open campus policy changes frequently at high schools. Lena raised we should consider 1500 feet for open campuses.

Public Comment:
Chris Mattson – UCSF researcher – would be valuable to get data on open and closed campuses and then pilot it. 2 issues are SNS financial health and student health.
Teri Oll – SF Food Bank – The ordinance doesn’t cover push carts or elementary schools. There is a gauntlet of dessert hand trucks outside schools as kids exit the building. This should be considered for part of the ordinance. Schools are trying to deal with to varying degrees.

Sup. Wiener will be meeting with someone with the District but he does not know who.

6. PE Update (Christina)

Christina passed out the Shape Up SF PE Advocates Assessment Report. Christina noted that the primary issues are underfunding and competing commitments (mostly testing), so it is time and money. Lack of flex time in school schedules is a problem. Much of the school day is defined in blocks to meet state standards and testing.

7. Oakland Study

Discussion happened around what the discussion will be on this in the next meeting. How does the committee move forward given that the committee has not been given information on the findings in the SFFB report? Teri stressed that Oakland had a vision that they built toward. SFUSD does not. SFUSD may build a vision based on the report. The committee can pick certain action items without the report.

8. Next meeting.

April 12 and May 10 are the next two meetings.