



MultCo Food Services Advisory Committee

December 4, 2023

9:30-10:30 AM

Virtual Or Lloyd Corporate Plaza - Suite 350 - Conf Rm B

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FSAC Members: Ginger Rapport, Margey Vattiat, Greg Astley, Rachel Clark, Daniel Huerta
Staff present: Jeff Martin, Debbie Flinchbaugh, Brenda Garcia, Shannon Fost, Rhonda Robb
Guests:None

New Business:

- Approval of August 2023 and October 2023 Meeting Minutes
- Staffing update - Jeff Martin, Shannon Fost, Andrea Hamberg
- Recap of the proposed FY24 fee increase meeting
- Engagement plan
- Renewal season is here
- Bylaws approved and recruitment of members - next steps
- New Chair

Updates:

- Round Table

Notes:

- Approval of Prior Committee Notes:Committee approved both the August 7, 2023 and October 2, 2023 meeting minutes.
- Staffing Update:Jeff shared that there have been leadership changes within Multnomah County. Health Department. Rachael Banks began as Multnomah County Health Department Director on November 15th. In addition, Public Health Director, Jessica Guernsey, will be leaving the County at the end of December. Continuing as Interim Public Health Director is Andrea Hamberg, which means that Jeff Martin will continue in his role of Interim Environmental Health Director.
- Jeff re-introduced FSAC members to the newest Inspections Management Team Members; Rhonda Robb, Field Inspections, Shannon Fost, Field Inspections, and Brenda Garcia, Front Office Inspections.
- Re-Cap of Fee Increase Meeting:
 - Committee discussed a recap of the proposed inspections fee increase at the

County

- Chair's meeting and surrounding issues;
 - The fee increase had been approved in May of 2023 and this meeting was to approve the fee schedule that showed the 6% increase.
 - After hearing public testimony however, the County Commissioners voted to not pass the fee increase at this time. It was also strongly recommended by County Commissioners that a Community Engagement Plan be developed.
 - There seemed to be a broad misunderstanding about the timing of the food scrap program and that it was passed by Metro and enforced by the City. The County could have communicated better with respect to that.
 - It can be difficult to stand in both places, both being a facility operator facing the increased costs of operating a business with today's challenges and also being on FSAC and understanding the needs of the Inspections Program and reasons/need for the Inspections Fee Increase.
 - Some members would like a better understanding of their role as FSAC members as it relates to communicating happenings of the committee.
 - Reviewed a heat map of the location of facilities throughout the County.
 - In Oregon, to be a licensed food inspector, you must have a REHS (Registered Environmental Health Specialist) license. For trainee's, this is two years of training and studying to pass the REHS test. Finding and hiring licensed REHS's has been difficult, so we have been focused on trainees.
 - The Inspections Program is currently down by five licensed inspectors.
- Community Engagement Plan
 - Committee felt the plan was well thought out and sensitive to the needs of operators and approved the use. It was suggested that using visuals/graphics can be helpful and also making use of social media
 - It was suggested that including information such as a "meet your health inspector" piece, so that operators better understand the background and education folks have in order to help keep their food processes safe.
 - Renewal Season is Happening:
 - Renewal notices went out and operators (who provided emails) were also notified by email.
 - Payments can now be made online in addition to previous methods of payment of cash, check or credit card.

Next Meeting Agenda Items:

- Carryover of New Chair and Recruitment of New FSAC Members

Next Meeting Date: February 5, 2024 - 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM