

A nighttime photograph of the Boston waterfront, featuring a mix of historic and modern architecture. In the foreground, a historic wooden building with a sign that reads "BOSTON TEA PARTY SHIPS & MUSEUM" is visible. The water reflects the city lights, and a bridge is seen in the distance. The overall scene is bathed in a cool blue light.

BOSTON FOOD ACCESS COUNCIL

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday March 4th, 2020
Greater Boston YMCA, 316 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115

Introductions & Welcome

*Catalina Lopez-Ospina, Mayor's Office of
Food Access*



Steering Committee

Community Representatives

Marcos Beleche

Ominique Garner

Joy Gary

Monee Vance

Organizational Representatives

Catherine Drennan, Greater Boston Food Bank

Karibe Ibeh, YMCA

Lauren Palumbo, Lovin' Spoonfuls

Elise Springuel, FoodLink

Diane Sullivan, Witnesses to Hunger





Meeting Agenda

Say Hello!

Updates on SNAP and Public Charge Rule

*Presentation on Racial Equity in the Food System
by Karen Spiller of Food Solutions New England*

Steering Committee Updates

Presentation of By-Laws

Development of Working Groups

Next Steps & June Meeting

**Updates regarding SNAP and Census
2020**

*Catherine Drennan, The Greater Boston Food
Bank and Steering Committee Member*



**Presentation on Racial Equity in the
Food System**

Karen Spiller, Food Solutions New England



Steering Committee Updates

Boston Food Access Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 4th, 2020



Presentation of By-Laws

*Lauren Palumbo, Lovin' Spoonfuls and
Steering Committee Member*



Article 1: Focus & Name

The purpose of the Boston Food Access Council (the council) shall be to provide an equitable, community-centered platform for food access, affordability, and economic opportunity. The council aims to engage every single member of the community, especially those who are most disproportionately impacted in a negative way by our food system.

The goals of the Boston Food Access Council shall be to:

- (1) Raise awareness of inequities within our food system
- (2) Promote engagement of those community members most negatively impacted by our food system
- (3) Drive policy changes to increase food access, affordability, and economic opportunity
- (4) Take action and pilot initiatives to act as an example for others seeking to increase food access



Article 2: Membership Structure

General Member: Anyone who completes the membership application and attends a BFAC Meeting or Working Group Meeting

Voting Member: Any General Member who attends at least 2 BFAC related meetings in a year

Steering Committee: Elected board of 9 Voting Members, comprised of Community and Organizational Representatives, elections take place each year at December meeting

Steering Committee Terms: 2 years, up to 2 consecutive terms

Co-Chairs: 2 Steering Committee members will serve 1 term as a Co-Chair, one Community and one Organizational Representative

Working Groups: Groups of General, Voting, and Steering Committee members addressing specific topic areas



Article 3: Duties & Responsibilities

Co-Chairs: Manage BFAC meetings and provide leadership for BFAC and Steering Committee

Steering Committee Members: Implement council priorities, establish & dissolve working groups, serve as working group liaisons, vote on implementing working group initiatives

Working Groups: Identify issues, make policy recommendations for the Steering Committee, and participate in BFAC mission

General & Voting Members: Elect Steering Committee and shape council priorities



Article 4: Meetings

General Council Meetings happen 4 times each year, every 3 months, in March, June, September, and December. General Council Meetings are open to the public, and the date, location, and agenda will be shared at least 4 days in advance of the meeting.

Steering Committee Meetings take place at least 6 times each year, often in the months without a Council Meeting.

Working Group Meetings will occur regularly as determined by the Chair(s) of each working group to accomplish the Working Group goals.



Article 5: Conduct of Business

General Order will follow a simplified Roberts Rules of Order

Article 6: Communication

Annual Reporting: BFAC will report annually in December on work completed and the upcoming year's priorities

Article 7: Amendments

Amendments: By-Laws may be amended by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of voting members



Development of Working Groups

Monee Vance



Fundraising

Interim Chair: Elise Springuel

The Fundraising Working Group will work to secure funds to meet the needs of the Boston Food Access Council, support members, support the Steering Committee, and provide resources at public and Working Group meetings.

Potential Initiatives:

Establish a fiscal sponsorship to create opportunity for charitable funding

Fund food, childcare, and/or transportation for public meetings

Fund a FoodCorps member or intern to support initiatives



Community Outreach, Engagement and Education

Interim Chair: Joy Gary

The Community Outreach, Engagement, and Education Working Group will work to ensure all community members are engaged with and informed of the efforts of the Boston Food Access Council.

Potential Initiatives:

Tabling at community events and farmers markets

Conduct needs assessment to determine how we can welcome all interested community members to participate



Advocacy and Policy

Interim Chair: Karibe Ibeh

The Advocacy and Policy Working Group will identify opportunities to take action on priorities identified by the Boston Food Access Council. Those priorities include: Healthy Food Access, Food Assistance Programs, Economic Opportunity, and Food Waste.

Potential Initiatives:

Lobbying City Council to change regulations in support of these initiatives

Developing resources to promote these areas



Mayor's Food Access Agenda

Interim Chair: Monee Vance

The Mayor's Food Access Agenda Working Group will help to advance the priorities and projects outlined in the Mayor's Food Access Agenda. Those priorities include: Ensuring Access to Food for All Boston Residents, Increasing Buying Power for Food in Boston, and Supporting Food Access Services and Programs.

Possible Avenues of Support:

Promoting Boston Double Up Food Bucks

Supporting Farmers Markets in Boston



Next Steps and June Meeting Goals

Wednesday, June 3rd, 2020, 6p-8p
Location To Be Determined

- Sign Up to Be a BFAC Member
- Spread the Word!
- Working Group Selection, Interim Chairs, & Next Steps
- Communication Methods Input
- Needs Assessment



THANK YOU

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