

**Group Name:** Tulsa Food Advisory Council – Special Meeting

**Date:** November 17, 2020

**Members Present:** David Chambers, Rocky Sturm, Steven Jennings, Harry Lents, Thomas Hunter, Marilyn Been, Eric Bartlett, Andrew Arvay, and Ruth Young

**Members Absent:** Vicky B. Cha and Evan Kelamis

**Others Present:** Collin Graham, Tony Nguyen, Karla Hutton, Haley Seim, Claire Enow, Monica Dirks, DeBrena Hilton, Rebekah Patton, and Sara I. Rodriguez

## **MINUTES**

- Introduction of guests: Tony Nguyen, Karla Hutton, Haley Seim, Claire Enow, Rebekah Patton, and Monica Dirks. Chad Patterson was unable to attend due to Phone Bank work assignment.
- Mr. Arvay opened the floor for 2021 Food Advisory Council Chairman and Vice Chairman nominations. Thomas Hunter made the motion that Andrew Arvay be re-elected as Chairman. Ruth Young seconded the motion, and the motion passed by acclamation. Mr. Arvay asked for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Thomas Hunter made the motion that Eric Bartlett be re-elected as Vice Chair. Ruth Young seconded the motion, and the motion passed by acclamation.
- Mr. Arvay proposed the 2021 meeting dates be February 10, June 2, and October 6. During discussion, a recommendation was made that the June 2 and October 6 meeting times be moved to 9:00am and the February 10 meeting time to remain at 2:00pm. Thomas Hunter made the motion to approve the meeting dates and times. David Chambers seconded the motion and the motion passed by acclamation.
- Council Membership resignation: Mr. Arvay informed the Council of Joe Blasdell and Alisa Trout-Schurr resignations for their positions on the Council. Mr. Arvay proposed a roster reorganization: Ruth Young to be moved from Food Industry Representatives to the General Consumers Group, Ruth Young accepted the suggested representation change and the Council was also in agreement. The following Council representative openings remain; one opening in the General Consumer Group, one opening in the Food Industry Representatives, and two openings within the Health Professionals constituency.
- DeBrena Hilton provided Food Protection Services (FPS) Program updates to the Council:
  - Debbie Watts was accepted into the Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, leaving a supervisor position open. A Plan Review Supervisor job posting description may be found on the THD website.
  - A total of 2,325 inspections have been conducted during the first quarter of fiscal year 2020-2021, which totals 27% of work completed.

## MEETING MINUTES – CONTINUED

- Covid-19 update: THD receiving safety plans per City of Tulsa ordinance since July 2020. Approximately 58 set of event plans events have been reviewed by DeBrena. The safety plan review includes recommendations and considerations for the event organizer to put in place when planning their events in order to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 within our community.
  - 371 COVID-19 complaints were received between May 1<sup>st</sup> – November 16<sup>th</sup> (i.e. mask complaints, social distancing, employees working ill, etc.)
  - FPS has been working with THD Epidemiology Department and has completed 45 referrals for food establishments with potential exposures. FPS staff investigates these referrals and works with the establishments to reiterate safety measures and make recommendations.
- Establishment Status Report January 1 – September 30, 2020:
  - 379 Closed Establishments; 462 Opened Establishments; 76 Opened Mobiles; 25 Open Processors; 44 Opened Dispensaries/MM Processors; 423 Plan Review applications.
- Broken Arrow City Council met on October 15<sup>th</sup> and voted to update their Food Establishment Ordinance. The council voted to approve with an emergency clause. The Tulsa Health Department will now receive 70% of food establishment fees and at least one manger must be certified unless exempt from certification within the city limits of Broken Arrow. The ordinance also included the appeals process and recognizes the Food Advisory Council.
- Tulsa and Bixby city license renewal extension granted without penalty through end of 2020.
- Tony Nguyen reviewed the COVID-19 timeline since the pandemic started March 18<sup>th</sup>. The first Covid-19 related death in Tulsa was on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Governor’s Executive order mandated that non-essential businesses close on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Tulsa Health Department, Food Protection Services suspended routine inspection work and continued to do pre-operational and licensing inspections during Phase 1 reopening and then phase 2 of reopening. May 29<sup>th</sup> FPS resumes limited routine inspections; July 1<sup>st</sup> inspections resumed. THD FPS numbers; our team consists of 4 clerical Staff, 19 inspectors, 4 supervisors, and 1 manager, since March – approximately 12,000 plus man hours have been committed to the Covid-19 response with at least eight FPS staff assigned at the vaccination dispensing or swabbing PODs each day. Other FPS staff have also been assisting with Epidemiological investigations and contact tracing, phone bank, building triage, positive case investigations, and Covid-19 events plans.
- Food Handler Program Update given by Tony Nguyen: online training launched December 14, 2019, Eastgate Metroplex Training Facility Closed in March 2020, In-person classes ended in March 2020 and we have yet to resume the in-person classes due to Covid-19. Food Handler Permit presentation reviewed during the meeting which compared on-line food handler program attendance rates with in-person class attendance rates. Between January 1 – October 31, 2019: 18,620 permits were obtained and from January 1 – October 31, 2020: 18,422 permits have been issued. The online training has been overwhelmingly positive even with the pandemic.

**MEETING MINUTES – CONTINUED**

- Collin Graham provided the Oklahoma Restaurant Association update as per Governor Emergency mandate any restaurant and bar must complete food service by 11:00pm and close for on premises sales. Establishments can continue to do any curbside or drive-thru services after 11pm. ORA EXPO originally scheduled for December 2 – 3, 2020 was moved to August 2021 due to the increase of Covid-19 cases. Mr. Graham thanked the Health Department for working with ORA since March on all guidelines and allowing them to be part of the recommendations to help the industry during this time.
- Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of Minutes - February 2020 Regular Meeting <b>(Action Required)</b></li> <li>• Chairman and Vice Chair nominations <b>(Action Required)</b></li> <li>• 2021 Meeting Dates <b>(Action Required)</b></li> <li>• Resignations &amp; Positions Vacancies <b>(No Action Required)</b></li> <li>• Food Protection Services Update <b>(No Action Required)</b></li> <li>• Oklahoma Restaurant Association Update <b>(No Action Required)</b></li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. February 2020 Minutes</li> <li>2. Regular Meeting Agenda</li> <li>3. Resignation Letters</li> </ol>