

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
FOOD SECURE CANADA  
Sunday, Nov. 4, 2012; Edmonton, AB

Chair: Eric Chaurrette; Minutes: Amanda Sheedy and Dayna Chapman

Meeting called to order @ 1:30 pm

All background documents for the 2012 AGM can be found here: <http://foodsecurecanada.org/AGM2012>

1. Call to order and introduction
2. Appointment of minute taker (Dayna Chapman, Secretary, and Amanda Sheedy)
3. Notice of Meeting: Notice of meeting was duly sent by email to members on October 19<sup>th</sup> 2012
4. Establishment of Quorum: FSC AGM had quorum.
5. Voting procedure: we function by consensus. In cases where there is no consensus, Chair will make 3 attempts to find consensus, failing this, the membership will move to a vote and the measure will pass if  $\frac{3}{4}$  of members present are in support.
  - a. Adoption of the Agenda
    - Motion to adopt the agenda- Suzie Walsh
    - **Moved** by consensus of those present
  - b. Adoption of the Minutes – AGM 2011
    - Motion to pass the minutes – Cathleen Kneen
    - Seconded by Susie Walsh
    - **Moved** by consensus of those present
  - c. Oral report from the Chair – Year in review: Eric Chaurrette
    - Excitement in the food movement, partly explained by our collective realization of the strength of our movement, and the unity of our struggle as outlined in the Peoples Food Policy.
    - In fall of 2011, during strategic planning retreat, 3 main goals were identified for FSC: (1) to be a strong voice at federal level for food movement; (2) to advance the Peoples Food Policy; and (3) For FSC to continue to convene, build and grow its networks.
    - With this mandate, the Steering committee was tasked to recruit staff to fulfill these responsibilities. FSC is proud to now have Amanda Sheedy as programs coordinator, and Diana Bronson as ED. Recently we have also recruited Abra Brynne and Nydia Dauphin to assist in network coordination and communications respectively. FSC has also counted on support of intern Ophelia Gasser.
    - FSC is strong and thriving. FSC has a new office, paid staff, is sought by media on food issues, and is a voice gaining strength in Ottawa and nationally, as exemplified with the UN Rapporteur to the Right to Food Mission to Canada earlier this year.
    - Acknowledgements to the staff for all their great work, and to Steering Committee members for their contribution over the year. In particular, acknowledgement to Lyna Hart, Michel Lambert, Joan Norberg, Tasha Sutcliffe, and especially to Cathleen Kneen, and Wayne Roberts who are finishing their terms on the Steering Committee.
    - As special thank you also to Susan Roberts and her local organizing committee for helping make this assembly possible.
    - FSC is alive and well, and it is eager to flex some muscle and build food justice now.

d. Oral report from the ED, Year in Review: Diana Bronson

Highlights:

- Our media work around the visit of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food resulted in 267 mainstream media hits
  - Organization and governance:
    - resolutions and report from governance sub-committee to follow
    - this is hard work, invisible work, important work
  - We need more members = priority, in order to build our political weight and our financial independence. Special thanks to members who give more than their fees (Inter Pares, USC, FoodShare) and appeal to those who have not paid up to kindly do so!
  - Assembly planning- special thanks to Susan Roberts and Jack Wenaus and all of the Edmonton volunteers and NAIT
  - Inspired by the real, face-to-face emergence of the Northern Network. FSC will be there in a very supportive role. Commitment to the goals established by the Northern Network. Develop North-South solidarity within Canada.
  - Will support the striking of an all-party parliamentary caucus to develop a national food policy. We'll get back to Parliament Hill and keep working. We'll be testifying before the Finance Committee on November 20 and many people here participated in a discussion about that.
  - Fundraising is a key priority. Need to raise \$160K before the end of the 2012/13 fiscal year.
- Motion to adopt a statement about XL meat / processing system (draft motion read out)
  - Proposed amendments:
    - Regulations should not be used to curtail Northern communities access to game and country foods
    - Include perspective of migrant workers, protections for workers
  - Proposal to adopt it as a draft and enable the executive to finalize it based on these amendments
  - Moved by consensus of those present

e. Financial Report and adoption of financial statements for 2009, 2010, and 2011

Financial report:

Update on Financial System by Tatiana Fraser, Treasurer

- Financial Accountability – lies with the executive of the Steering Committee, who report to the Steering Committee
- Transition – Progress has been made over the past year in building better financial systems
  - a. Ongoing: internal policy and systems development
  - b. Hired bookkeeper (Esme Terry)
- Expected audit of 2012 – will be available in January

Projections

- 2012 Projected annual budget - \$225,000
- 2013 projected - \$660,000
  - secured \$500,000
  - needed \$160,000
- Our treasurer is confident about the upcoming years

Adoption of financial statements

- Financial review conducted of 2009, 2010, 2011
- Steady growth of income and expenses over 3 years

- Motion: That the audited financial statements of Food Secure Canada , for the years ending Aug 31 2009, 2010, 2011 audited by Simon Hall Chartered accountant, be accepted by the membership of Food Secure Canada.
  - Moved by Mustafa Koc
  - Second – Nga De La Cruz
  - **Moved** by consensus of those present

f. Appointment of Auditors for 2012

- Motion: That the membership of Food Secure Canada appoint the firm of Dagenais, Lapierre, Simard et Associé, SENCRL as auditors for the 2012 fiscal year.
  - Moved by Rebecca Schiff
  - Seconded by Jane Rabinovitz
  - **Moved** by consensus of those present

g. Election of New Steering Committee

- Process – elections took place before the AGM electronically
- Lauren Baker (Nominations Committee) thanks all departing SC members for their important contributions. Departing Steering Committee members: Lyna Hart, Cathleen Kneen, Michel Lambert, Joan Norberg, Wayne Roberts, Tasha Sutcliffe. Special recognition is given to Wayne Roberts
- Lauren Baker presents list of elected and continuing Steering Committee members: Faris Ahmed, Lauren Baker, Dayna Chapman, Kathleen Charpentier, Barton Cutten, Katelyn Friendship, Joe Munroe, Shawn Pegg, Joyce Rock, Colleen Ross, Rick Sawa, Rebecca Schiff, Brynne Sinclair-Waters, Eric Chaurette, Shirley Thompson, Tatiana Fraser, Andrea Peart, Mustafa Koç, Stuart Clark, Jordan Nikoloyuk, Kathleen Gibson, Holly Solomon, Wendy Armstrong, Vincent Prince, and Gaëlle Javier.
- Motion: It is resolved that the slate of members are duly appointed to act as steering committee members for the 2012/2013 year
  - Motion – Cathleen Kneen
  - Seconded Rebecca Schiff
  - **Moved** by consensus of those present

h. Bylaws: short-term amendments for current bylaws

- Motion: to approve the amendments to the bylaws streamlining the operations of Food Secure Canada and delegating legal and financial authority to the executive of the Steering Committee as outlined in [Item H](#).
  - Motion – Faris Ahmed
  - Seconded - Susie Walsh
  - **Moved** by consensus of those present

i. Report from Governance sub-committee on rewrite of bylaws for 2013

Presented by Cathleen Kneen, Governance sub-committee member (see written report of Governance Sub-Committee on website for more details)

- We need to redo our bylaws to conform with the new laws coming down in October 2014
  - The fit is difficult with our movement and our organization

- Moving towards adopting a board structure
- Complications around membership – new laws
- Responses
  - Broader board to help share financial liability
  - Representation from regions to solve membership issue

j. Adjournment of the Business Meeting

Motion to adjourn

- Motion by Carolyn Young
  - Seconded by Mustafa Koç
  - **Moved** by consensus of those present
  - Business portion of meeting adjourned 2:36 pm
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- Debbie Fields would like a more formal adoption of a proposal; proposes that, “FSC at its 2012 meeting committed to working for a National Student Nutrition Program.”
- Seconded by Sasha
- Jane – in support of us all contributing program funding to FSC to make these campaigns a reality
- Mustafa – we should leave decision making about priorities to Executive
- Need a conversation re: bringing provincial network membership strategies in line with FSC strategy
- Chair acknowledges and welcomes membership’s desire to move on a National Student Nutrition Program. It is directly in line with one of the top priorities in the Peoples Food Policy, for which FSC has a commitment to advance. Chair proposes that this work is held over for fine-tuning by Steering Committee, staff and executive.
- **Moved** by consensus of those present.
- Some great news to end on: New Farmers Initiative launched! Youth Caucus struck!
- Discussion portion of meeting adjourned 3:04 pm