# Kitsap Food Advisory Council Meeting Agenda

**PURPOSE:** A volunteer council comprised of industry, public, and Food and Living Environment Program representatives whose goals are to increase food safety in Kitsap County.

**GROUND RULES:** Topics may become contentious. It is okay to attack the process, but not the person.

**Date:** 10/4/2021  
**Time:** 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
**Location:** Zoom

**Attendees:** Monica Downen, Kim Faulkner, Layken Winchester, Harrison Forte, Joe Bushnell, Diane Fish, Susan Van Ort, Julia Zander, Dayna Katula, Paisley Gallagher

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Discussion/Outcome</th>
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<td>10:00-10:10</td>
<td>Introductions</td>
<td>• Round table: Harrison Forte was introduced as KPHD’s new food inspector.</td>
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| 10:10-10:20| KFAC membership (Dayna)               | • Membership term review/renewal:  
- Julia’s renewal is in May 2022.  
- Joe may be unable to continue with council next year. Another member of the Washington Hospitality Association may replace him if that is the case. | - Joe to send Dayna contact information of his supervisor to inquire about a replacement if Joe leaves KFAC. |
| 10:20-10:30| KPHD’s Food Program update (Dayna)    | • Personnel updates:  
- The Food Program is receiving Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) funding from the state because food safety if an FPHS priority.  
- The Food Program will be hiring 2 more food inspectors.  

- State of the program:  
- Food inspectors have been removed from COVID-19 work and are back in their regular work full time. Inspections are about 6 months behind due to COVID, but focus will be to catch up once 2 more food inspectors are hired. |                                                                                         |
| 10:30-10:40| Food Code revision implementation (Dayna) | • Seeking ideas on how to make transition as smooth as possible:  
- Monica suggested including information on the website, handouts, and one-on-one discussion.  
- Joe suggested focusing on the more impactful, operational changes to the Food Code.  
- Consensus is that information should be shared sooner rather than later. | - Members should send Dayna an email if they have further input after the meeting has concluded. |
| 10:40-11:00| Purchasing produce from local farms (Diane) | • Kitsap Sun article:  
- Article gave the perception that purchasing from local farms was not approved nor was it safe. Dayna and Diane reached out to Kitsap Sun and the article was corrected.  
- What is allowed:  
- Purchasing from local farms is approved to be used by food establishment operators.  
- Farm food safety standards: | - Diane will send farm information/education material to inspectors via email. |

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**Notes:**
- Monica suggested including information on the website, handouts, and one-on-one discussion.
- Joe suggested focusing on the more impactful, operational changes to the Food Code.
- Consensus is that information should be shared sooner rather than later.
Local farmers are exempt from the Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA) rule because they sell less than the threshold, but those that sell wholesale and at farmers markets follow good agricultural practices and good handling practices for post-harvest. Most small farms in Kitsap have participated in the Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA) trainings and all of the farms that produce enough volume for wholesaling have taken the training.

**Public notification of outbreaks (Dayna)**

- **Background of FDA National Retail Voluntary Standards work:**
  - FDA’s National Retail Voluntary Standards is an optional program Kitsap has enrolled in. The goal of the program is to achieve national uniformity among regulatory programs responsible for retail food protection. Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) that follow this model should be effective in preventing foodborne illnesses in the communities they serve by working towards completing nine different standards.
  - The Food Program is working on Standard 5.
- **Standard 5: Foodborne Illness and Food Defense**
  - Standard 5 includes public notification of outbreaks. The Food Program is obligated to be transparent to the public but does not want to negatively impact small business.
  - Discussion about public notification included discussing what constitutes an outbreak, what other counties do, that transparency is good, and that notifications may encourage people to report illness more as foodborne illness is typically underreported. All were in favor of sharing the information readily.

**COVID-19 (Open)**

- **Questions/concerns & challenges/struggles:**
  - COVID discussion included concerns over reporting a COVID illness, businesses being informed of COVID positive employees, struggles with staffing, and supply chain issues.

**Agenda items for next meeting:**

- Next meeting: January 3, 2022 @ 10 am to 12:00 pm