

GFL SG Meeting Wednesday 17th January 2024

Minutes

Attendance: Tariq, Simone, Laura, Carolyn, Andrea, Theresa, Raymond, and Jo, Allan, Stella

Apologies: Helen MacIntosh, Helen Jackson (there may have been more sent to Helen J)

1. Welcome and introductions

All members introduced themselves including Allan who is volunteering with GFL and has been supporting silver award application preparation research and Carolyn Ehman from the Albany who would like to join the Steering Group. Carolyn was voted on the Steering Group and given a warm welcome.

2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

Minutes from the last meeting were approved. Outstanding Action Points – either in progress and discussed under Silver Award preparation or have been actions.

3. Silver Award Application

The Steering Group formally agreed that we would plan to submit a Silver Award application – a lot of great work is happening in the borough and by Helen and team. The biggest challenge will be collating and fitting it into the application.

Simone gave an overview of what is needed to apply:

- EOI form- completed
- Application which evidences development in the six SFP areas and EDI and engagement work – to be submitted by mid-June.
- GFL needs to develop a three year action plan, which includes wide consultation and has priority areas and actions under the six different areas.
- We have a draft action plan which has been developed from the GFL coordination team's work plan which can be adjusted and engagement work will be undertaken in the form of a survey and 2x workshops over the next 2-3 months.

Points made by Allan:

- Take a strategic and collaborative approach already have the FJAP plan and get input of other organisations.
- Building public awareness and active citizenships- all the networks and groups who are collaborating. Tackling food poverty and ill health- RMUK Wellbeing and others. Transforming catering and procurement
- Could be more to identify- not trying not to reinvent but see what's out there. BLACHIR report- impact food poverty has on African Caribbean communities/ Tackling climate and nature communities
 - Lewisham signed up to the Glasgow initiatives and other work. Looking at other applications – they point to other org to demonstrate the benefits of applying for this award- is pulling it together and create a strategic direction – learning and support one another, it's doable, Lewisham has got a lot.

Andrea mentioned linking with Extinction Rebellion for climate and food work. Lakhvinder mentioned that Lewisham has a sustainable procurement strategy, strategy runs to 2025- will be refreshed – need to influence this.

RMUK is linking with Climate Action Lewisham to engage more people within the black community with climate issues – important to include and consider an EDI lens for engagement on action plan. Lewisham a high ethnic population, diverse – the black community not necessarily engaged in these issues, Environmental issues that links to food- needs to demonstrate that these conversations are happening within these communities. Are there other food growing spaces that represent the population of Lewisham – we need to show and think about this and demonstrate what’s happening in this.

Discussed the gaps – procurement and possibly climate. Discussed that the work on growing feeds into climate.

Stella is planning to do a plant-based cultural food event with climate action Lewisham – to engage more Black, ethnic minorities within these conversations.

ACTIONS

- **Allan/Simone to share Greenwich and another borough applications with the SG**
- **Lakhvinder to look for templates for procurement to look for tenders and speak to the contracts leads to identify what’s happening in this area.**
- **Allan to add in all the policies he identified into the draft application.**
- **Raymond to identify who is involved in developing the next sustainable procurement strategy and how we can influence – has looked into this – current one runs until 2025 – there’s a consultation process, need to see how external it is**
- **Helen and team to reconnect with waste team as they are making good progress and can feed into the application.**
- **Stella and all feed in points into the action plan including the plant-based event coming up**
- **Simone to ask SFP if we would need to re-apply for bronze if we don’t get it**
- **Simone to re-share draft application. ALL to add in activities they are aware of under six areas plus EDI section into application form and colour code in a different colour to identify who has put what. Helen and team create a glossary header of all the organisation and include BAME and under-represented groups section– collate the entities that we have – what are their objectives and mission statement**
- **Simone to share Every Mouthful Counts toolkit with SG**

4. Community engagement- survey and workshop

Discussed two different options and agreed

- 1) First simple survey to go out to all residents- need drop-down options for better results and ensure no question is required (boosts engagement)
- 2) More detailed survey for partners working in the sector to get more detail for the application and the plan (maybe send out with the plan)

Stella- need to make sure we get a diversity of voices, particularly young people and seldom heard

ACTION - Helen and Simone to develop surveys and send out public one by end of month /mid Feb

5. Safer Spaces Policy

Simone mentioned we're developing a safer spaces policy which is around ensuring accessibility, fostering inclusivity and considering language and behaviour

ACTION Simone to send around with minutes to review and decide on approval next time.

6. Upcoming Network meeting

Laura gave an overview of the plan for the next meeting.

ACTION_ Laura to invite Fiona Galvin about procurement.

7. Date of next meeting

Meeting agreed for Wednesday 20th of March 4.30pm at Lewisham Local's office (encouraged to join but hybrid will be possible).

8. AOB

Laura asked whether GFL can organise anything to support those affected by the war in Gaza.

Action – to discuss as a coordination team Good Food Lewisham's remit and possibly follow up at next meeting