

Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board Meeting Notes

MEETING SUMMARY	Date: September 19, 2018
	Time: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
	Location: Seattle Municipal Tower, 16 Floor, Room 1650 700 Fifth Ave, Seattle 98104
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Christina Wong, Jen Hey, Laura Cantrell Flores, Leika Suzumura, Lisa Chen, Mackenzie Chase
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Ahmed Ali, Dila Perera, Jim Krieger, Yolanda Matthews, Seat 8 – Vacant (Public Health Representative)
GUESTS:	Office of Sustainability & Environment: Bridget Igoe, Shaunice Wilson

DECISIONS MADE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Board approved the meeting notes from the August 15 meeting. 2. The Board unanimously agreed to establish an ad hoc workgroup/subcommittee that will draft a letter to Council about the proposed budget. Subcommittee members and intent of the letter will be determined at the October 3 meeting.
-----------------------	--

FOLLOW-UP ACTION ITEMS			
#	ITEM	RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)	TARGET DATE
1	Analyze proposed budget and send preliminary information to the Board	M. Chase, C. Wong	Before 10/3
2	Set-up meeting with L. Chen and J. Hey to discuss schools work	B. Igoe	n/a

Meeting Notes

Christina Wong, Co-Chair, facilitated the meeting

Welcome and Introductions

- Board members introduced themselves by sharing their names and organizations. City staff introduced themselves by sharing their names and departments.

Public Comment

None

Updates and Quick Business

- The Board approved the meeting notes from the August 15 meeting.
- Updates from the Board:
 - On September 8, C. Wong and L. Suzumura presented the Board's recommendations to the Sustainability & Transportation Committee. The presentation and recommendations were well received and CM Johnson and CM O'Brien stated they were impressed with the Board's rigorous process.

- Val Thomas-Matson (Healthy King County Coalition) and Tanika Thompson (Got Green) recently participated in a debate on Initiative 1634 “Yes! to Affordable Groceries”, hosted by the Loren Miller Bar Association. Thomas-Matson were there to represent the “No” side of I-1634 and Michael Charles was there to represent the “Yes” side. At one point, Charles stated the City didn’t know what it planned to do with the beverage tax revenue and it was just going into the General Fund. Thomas-Matson and Thompson were able to rebut this and show all the ways the SBT is supporting healthy food access and early learning.
- An email with results from the Board’s community input survey and how they were used in the Board’s budget recommendations was distributed through the original email listserv.
- Seattle Public Schools has yet to hire a Nutrition Services Director. The Board should track this development closely given the substantial budget recommendations to fund fruit and vegetable programs in schools.
- In Boulder, CO, it is now a violation of city code to include on receipts phrases/items such as 'sugar-sweetened beverage tax' or 'sugary drink tax' or other wording that would lead a consumer to believe that the city's sugar-sweetened beverage tax is imposed directly on the retail sale.
- Updates from City staff:
 - Fresh Bucks expanded into Safeway stores. SNAP customers who spend \$10 on fruits and vegetables will earn a \$5 coupon they can spend on their next purchase of fruits and vegetables at Safeway.
 - The Office of Sustainability & Environment is working with Seattle Public Schools to execute a contract that would expand the fresh fruit and vegetable program to 19 elementary schools. OSE and SPS are discussing options to offer fruit and vegetable programming in middle schools and high schools using a different model.
 - A few Board members agreed that different, targeted models are needed for elementary schools vs. middle and high schools to be successful. Additionally, complementary community-based programming can play a big role in making these interventions successful.
 - L. Chen and J. Hey volunteered to have a follow-up discussion with B. Igoe on strategies to enhance school-based fruit and vegetable programs.
 - The Mayor will present the 2019-2020 Biennial Budget Proposal to City Council on September 24.
 - Ben Noble, Director of the City Budget Office, is confirmed to attend the Board’s October 3 meeting to walk the Board through the budget proposal for SBT revenues.

Fresh Bucks Evaluation Plan

This agenda item was cancelled but will be rescheduled for another date.

Budget Public Hearings

The Board reviewed and discussed the [City Council Budget Committee Fall 2018 Schedule](#) and key phases and dates for when the 2019-2020 proposed budget will be deliberated by Council.

Key discussion points:

- It is permissible for Board members to meet with Council as individuals (i.e. not as representatives of the Board). Board members who do this must make it clear they are speaking as individuals (e.g. *“Although I am a member of the Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board, today I am speaking as an individual, not on behalf of the Board.”*)
- At the next Board meeting (October 3), the Board will consider taking action related to the proposed budget, e.g. writing a letter directed at Council about the proposed budget.
- The Board discussed the October 4 and October 23 public hearings on the budget and whether it was feasible for Board members or stakeholders in the community to participate. These hearings can last for 5-6 hours so it’s a significant request to make. Possible community outreach contacts suggested include: staff from child care programs, Solid Ground, Seattle Public Schools, farmers markets who participate in Fresh Bucks, Somali Health Board, United Way King County, Got Green, Rainier Beach Action Coalition, Healthy King County Coalition, and Tilth Alliance.
- As soon as the proposed budget comes out, C. Wong and M. Chase will do a preliminary budget analysis and aim to send to the Board for review before the next Board meeting (October 3).

**Board action:

- The Board unanimously agreed to establish an ad hoc workgroup/subcommittee that will draft a letter to Council about the proposed budget. Subcommittee members and intent of the letter will be determined at the October 3 meeting.

Debrief Board processes

The Board split into pairs to start a discussion about what worked well over this last year and what could have been better. After 10-15 minutes of small group discussion, the Board reconvened to share feedback. The following questions were used to prompt discussion:

1. What worked well for you, and why?
2. What could have been better, why?

What worked well

- Foundation built on values, bylaws
- Foundational work done well and quickly – helped to foster goodwill and collaborative spirit
- Department report-outs to CAB
- Admin Support
 - Support made it easier to join work groups
 - Responsive, consistent, strategic, good at anticipating needs
- Information sharing/ not overloading
 - Exec. Committee did a good job providing info back to CAB
- Outside facilitation at important times
- Process for getting community input, given time – it seemed authentic and genuine
- Flexibility for longer meetings, food
- Empowering subcommittees to get work done

What could be done better

- Rushing thru 2019 recommendations; overlaying the 2018 focus areas and priorities onto the 2019 budget wasn't ideal
 - Need to allow for more time on agenda to be thorough
- Categories (focus areas) & activities unclear, confusing, and unnecessarily narrow (e.g. PA activity – there are more ways to increase PA than recreational scholarships)
 - How can we leave space for emergent work/ ideas?
- We spent too much time prioritizing and reprioritizing/ getting specific—should have spent time in other ways
- Group dynamics—attendance and participation by some key Board members has been waning; need to step back and let others speak
- Need to strengthen communication and alignment with Executive
- Unfilled seats—creates pressure on filled seats (e.g. early learning)
- How to increase ownership/ commitment investment in the work?
- Time privilege—feeds into ability to participate
- CAB meetings
 - How are we centering community groups through our procedures? E.g. Board bylaws could be more intentional such as by saying no Board action can happen if a community seat is not present.
 - How can we be more flexible/ agile to center on communities most impacted?
- How is our process & timeline creating more barriers?
 - How can we manage tension between being inclusive and a fast timeline?
- Strategic planning so we are more proactive, less reactive
- Frustration over low sense of ownership for birth-to-three priorities (and only 1 seat to represent this)
- Need to unpack EQUITY vs. IMPACT (and how values align and interplay with criteria)
- Gap between institutional vs. community partnership/ investments—how can we build in ways to ensure institutions are partnering with CBOs (schools, city government). If this is not closely monitored, it will further institutional oppression.
- CAB communications
- Urban farming—recommended a lot in survey, not featured in CAB's recommendations.

Annual Strategic Planning Retreat

The feedback from the debrief conversation will be used to identify topics for a December planning workshop. B. Igoe will call each Board member to gather additional input on the planning workshop (e.g. suggestions on workshop location, food, schedule, and topics). There was a suggestion that the workshop be held somewhere in South Seattle.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.