



# Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

**Meeting Date:** December 6, 2011

**Prepared By/Phone Number:** Melissa Velasquez, Judge's Office, x49557

**Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head:** Samuel T. Biscoe, County Judge

**Commissioners Court Sponsor:** Samuel T. Biscoe, County Judge

## **AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

Consider and take appropriate action on the appointment of Adam King to fill the unexpired term of Shirene Garcia to the Sustainable Food Policy Board, effective immediately through February 28, 2013.

## **BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:**

Judge Biscoe has 2 appointees to the Sustainable Food Policy Board per Commissioners Court voting session January 27, 2009.

Our current appointee Shirene Garcia of Urban Roots regrettably must step down. Adam King applied for appointment in the spring of 2011 and continues to be eager to serve on the board. Resume is attached.

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Recommend approval.

## **ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:**

## **FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

n/a

## **REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:**

n/a

**AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE:** All agenda requests and supporting materials must be submitted as a pdf to Cheryl Aker in the County Judge's office, [Cheryl.Aker@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Cheryl.Aker@co.travis.tx.us) by **Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m.** for the next week's meeting.

**Sam Biscoe - Re: Sustainable Food Policy Board**

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**From:** Shirene Garcia <[sgarcia@youthlaunch.org](mailto:sgarcia@youthlaunch.org)>  
**To:** Sam Biscoe <[Sam.Biscoe@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Sam.Biscoe@co.travis.tx.us)>  
**Date:** 10/21/2011 5:51 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Sustainable Food Policy Board

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Judge Biscoe,

Thank you for your message and for your understanding. I know that there is a desire on the board to find someone else who can represent youths' perspective and who has some expertise in getting the community involved. I would like to ask you to keep this in mind as you search for someone else.

Next week is quite busy for me, so the following week will be much easier for me to meet. Currently, I can meet any time Monday, Oct. 31, Tuesday Nov. 1st, or Wednesday the 2nd.

Thank you,  
Shirene

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Shirene Garcia  
Outreach Coordinator

Urban Roots  
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Austin, Texas 78757  
O: (512) 342-0424, x113 | C: (512) 750-8019  
[sgarcia@youthlaunch.org](mailto:sgarcia@youthlaunch.org) | [www.youthlaunch.org](http://www.youthlaunch.org)

*Urban Roots: Cultivating Young Leaders to Nourish Their Communities.*

Directions to the Urban Roots farm are at:  
<http://youthlaunch.org/contact/urlocation.php>

On 10/18/11 2:36 PM, "Sam Biscoe" <[Sam.Biscoe@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Sam.Biscoe@co.travis.tx.us)> wrote:

Ms. Garcia, the notice contained in your email is sufficient to trigger my search for a replacement.

I greatly appreciate your willingness to serve on this board, and understand how personal circumstances often change in a way that makes future service very difficult. I am thankful for your willingness to serve a short time more.

I am free to meet with you on Wednesday, Oct. 26 at 3 p.m. or Thursday, October 27 at 10 a.m., 1:30, 2:00 or 3 p.m. Let me know if one of these will work for you. If none of these is convenient, I am more available during the week after October 28.

Thank you. Sam

>>> Shirene Garcia <[sgarcia@youthlaunch.org](mailto:sgarcia@youthlaunch.org)> 10/17/2011 3:47 PM >>>  
Dear Judge Biscoe,

I hope this note finds you well. I am writing to ask to set up a time to meet so that I can update you on the Sustainable Food Policy Board's recent activities since you appointed me to serve on the board starting in May. We now have finished our annual report from last year, which I would like to show you. I'd also like to get your feedback about what you feel are important issues for the SFPB to focus on in the coming year. Please let me know what times work best for you in the next 2-3 weeks.

On another note, I regret to inform you that I will need to step down from serving on the Sustainable Food Policy Board. I am very sorry that I am not able to serve my full term of service, as I generally take my commitments very seriously. Unfortunately, there are many things that have come up in my commitment to work, and in my personal life, that will require more of my time and energy for at least the next few months, so I will not have enough time to contribute to participation on the SFPB.

Please let me know what the proper steps to take are in transitioning out of service on the board, and in having someone appointed to take my place. I have spoken to Paula McDermott, the chair of the board, and I am happy to serve on the board for the next couple of months, which will hopefully be enough time for new the appointment to be made.

I look forward to your response and to meeting with you.

Thank you,  
Shirene

A3. CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON PROCESS FOR SELECTING TRAVIS COUNTY'S APPOINTMENTS TO CITY OF AUSTIN-TRAVIS COUNTY SUSTAINABLE FOOD POLICY BOARD. (COMMISSIONER ECKHARDT) (11:03 AM)

**Motion by** Commissioner Eckhardt **and seconded by** Judge Biscoe for each member of the Court to appoint one person, and for the County Judge to appoint two.

**An Addition to the previous Motion was made by** Commissioner Eckhardt to set a closing date for the application process of 5:00 PM, Friday, January 30, 2009.

**Motion carried:**

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	absent

**Clerk's Note:** The County judge noted that the Commissioners Court would approve the selections within the next two weeks.

Item A3 to be reposted on February 3, 2009 and February 10, 2009.

## RESUME

Adam King  
2100 Peach Tree St.  
Austin, TX 78704  
ph: (512) 712-0137  
email: [aking@wheatsville.com](mailto:aking@wheatsville.com)

### Work Experience:

I am currently employed as produce manager for Wheatsville Food Co-op in Austin, Texas.

#### Responsibilities include:

- Ordering: Coordinating purchasing between national organic produce distributors (Whole Foods Southwest Distribution in Austin, Boulder Fruit Express in CO) and local farmers and producers
- Inventory: Monitoring product for quality control purposes to reduce shrink. Performing quarterly inventories.
- Managing staff: Hiring, performing periodic evaluations, recognizing positive job performance, taking disciplinary action when needed.
- Training employees: Developing systems for merchandising, rotation of product, and customer service. Empowering employees to make decisions and take control of their job.
- Public Outreach: Examples include educating staff and customers about healthy eating, recipe ideas, organic vs. conventional vs. local and examining the carbon footprint of food. I maintain Wheatsville produce department's Facebook page.
- Currently building a network of local farmers in Austin to partner with Wheatsville Co-op. My goal is to substantially increase the amount of local produce available at the co-op, thereby making locally grown produce more available for the public.

Produce manager for La Montañita Food Co-Op's Rio Grande Boulevard location, one of two stores located in Albuquerque, NM (July 2005 – Aug 2010)

Job responsibilities were similar to the ones listed above, additionally, I was part of a team of managers engaged in an ambitious Food Shed Project which aimed to support local agriculture by bringing together producers with markets including but not limited to La Montañita's stores.

Assistant produce manager, La Montañita Food Co-op (April 2003 – July 2005)

This position, while still supervisory, included many of the above responsibilities with the exception of hiring, disciplining, and evaluation of employees.

Other Skills:

- Comfortable speaking directly to the public about local, organic, sustainable agriculture.
- Comfortable working with farmers and small business owners.
- A good communicator and relish the opportunity to develop new working relationships both personally and professionally.
- Detail oriented and enjoy building new systems that provide the most efficient ways to meet goals set by myself, my supervisor, and my staff.
- Keen to pursue new challenges
- Well versed in organic and sustainable lifestyles: literature, current debates, blogs, papers, up-to-date books on the subject.

For references please contact:

Beth Caudill  
Human Resources Director, Wheatsville Food Co-op  
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Ph: (512) 478-2667  
Email: [bethc@wheatsville.com](mailto:bethc@wheatsville.com)

Sharret Rose  
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