

URBAN AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, January 14, 2026 – 4PM

Grand Rapids Public Library – Adult Center for Computer Learning
111 Library St. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Committee Members Present:

Present: Carlos Calderon (Committee Chair), Evvia Marshall, Connie Bohatch

Absent: Dolli Lutes, Kim Moore (Vice-Chair)

Others: Kat Hart (City Staff), Joe Sulak (City Staff), Angelica De Jesus (City Staff), Allison Coffey (West Michigan Works), Sarah Chartier (Rapidian)

Mission:

To educate and empower the community by providing policy review, recommendations, and support for urban agriculture.

Agenda:

1. Call to Order: 4:04pm

2. Determination of Quorum

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Connie Bohatch, supported by Carlos Calderon, to approve the January 14, 2026, agenda was presented. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes from the October 8 meeting

- Evvia Marshall proposed a spelling correction on page 3
- Motion made by to approve agenda, as amended, by Connie Bohatch, supported by Carlos Calderon, to approve the October 8, 2025, minutes. Motion carried.

5. Public Comments

- Allison Coffey introduced themselves as a representative from West Michigan Works. Interested in referring urban agriculture job opportunities to her clients.
- Sarah Chartier introduced themselves as a Documenter for the Rapidian, local news outlet. Here to record audio and notes at the UAC meeting.

6. Chair & Vice Chair elections for 2026

- Connie Bohatch moved, Evvia Marshall seconded to reelect:
 - i. Carlos Calderon as Chair
 - ii. Kimberly Moore as Vice Chair

7. Old Business

- Website will be live 3/2/26 & will include updated resources on UAC page
- Kat provided overview of UAC and City Committee By-Laws. Presentation will be sent out to the whole committee this month.

8. New Business

- Angelica De Jesus introduced herself and provided overview of Urban Ag. Project from Grand Rapids Parks & Recreation.
 - RFP is going live on 1/15
 - ADJ asking for feedback on major changes that need to be made (by 1/21 if possible)
 - Joe Sulak clarified that dates in the RFP are fluid
 - Carlos will share a google doc for group feedback on RFP
 - He is looking forward to funding opportunities
 - ADJ is looking for additional resources to include in the RFP
 - Support on grant writing for applicants
 - Parks is available to follow up with questions
- Neighborhood Summit (4/25)
 - Discussion on NS next month at February 11 UAC meeting

9. Partner Reports – Committee Members

- None

10. Agenda Items for future meeting

- Community events
- Review Urban Ag RFP
- S.P Review
- Timekeeping

11. Adjournment 5:12pm

**Next Meeting – Wednesday, February 11 – 4:00pm
at the Grand Rapids Public Library
(111 Library St. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503)**