

## URBAN AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, February 11, 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), Kim Moore (Vice-Chair), Evvia Marshall

**Absent:** Dolli Lutes, Connie Bohatch

**Other:** Annabelle Wilkinson (City Staff), Robert Cloy II (City Staff), Kat Hart (City Staff), Angélica De Jesus (City Staff), Scott Baker (City Staff), Megan Huxold (Community member), Josh (Community member)

### Mission:

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

### Agenda:

1. Call to Order: 4:00pm
2. Determination of Quorum
3. Approval of Agenda
  - Motion made by Carlos Calderon to amend the February 11, 2026, Agenda to add “compost policy review”, seconded by Kimberly Moore. Motion carried.
  - Motion made by Carlos Calderon, seconded by Kim Moore, to approve the February 11, 2026, agenda was presented. Motion carried.
4. Approval of Minutes of the January 14 meeting
  - Motion made by to approve agenda by Kimberly Moore, supported by Evvia Marshall, to approve the January 14, 2026, minutes. Motion carried.
5. Public Comments
  - Two members of the public introduced themselves
6. Old Business
  - Chair & Vice Chair elections for 2026
  - Urban Agriculture Project RFP update
    - i. Released 2/2/2026, deadline to apply is 3/2/2026
    - ii. Virtual info session on 2/18 for applicants
    - iii. Q&A session opens & answers will be live on 2/16
7. New Business
  - 2026 Summer meeting schedules (May & June 2026)
    - i. Kim will double check availability of Kid’s Food Basket for May 13, 2026

- ii. Roberto Clemente Park chosen for June 10, 2026
- Community events (GR Neighborhood Summit on Saturday, 4/25/26)
  - i. Majority of UAC members are not available
  - ii. Carlos will compile print-out resources to share with City staff to have at their tables
    - 1. Consider giveaway items like plants or seeds
  - iii. Kat will re-send community event spreadsheet to UAC
- Strategic Plan (SP) review & *Renew GR* collaboration
  - i. Can we identify responsible parties for urban agriculture work
    - 1. Interest in a *RACI* chart
  - ii. Prioritization of actions in SP
  - iii. Eric Shannon (City staff) could support with designing metrics for the UAC SP
  - iv. Next step is to identify activities to pursue
    - 1. UAC will decide on format for SP review with Jennifer VanHorsen
- *Renew GR* collaboration presented by Jennifer VanHorsen
  - i. Three community engagement events are upcoming to receive feedback on the *location* of the food scrap collection bins
    - 1. Tuesday, March 3, at 6pm at Sibley Elementary
    - 2. Wednesday, March 4, at 6pm at Gerald R. Ford Elementary
    - 3. Thursday, March 5, at 6pm at City High
  - ii. Food scrap collection pilot in summer 2025 at several City buildings
  - iii. Community drop-off will be available April 2026
  - iv. Any feedback from UAC members is desired on the printed materials
- Compost policy review
  - i. Mayor LaGrand provided suggestions on the City composting ordinance
    - 1. Removing language around a “commercial container”
  - ii. Need to ID the order of operations for policy review
    - 1. UAC reviews policy & presents findings to City
  - iii. Scott Baker provided insights that the policy has to have a set of guidelines:
    - 1. What building materials can be utilized to build a compost operation?
    - 2. How can it be covered to prevent vermin?
    - 3. What guidelines are enforceable?
  - iv. Existing resources on composting policy were put together in 2022

## 8. Partner Reports

- None

## 9. Agenda Items for future meeting

- Bring back UAC’s 2021 composting policy recommendations to review

- Determine format for SP review

10. Adjournment 5:03pm

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