

2016 Stinner Summit Report



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



10th Annual Stinner Summit

The 10th annual Stinner Summit was held on October 14th at Stratford Ecological Center in Delaware, Ohio. The Stratford Ecological Center is a private non-profit organization dedicated to the education of children and adults in understanding the relationships between living things and their environment, thereby fostering an appreciation of the land and all life that depends on it. The Center provides hands-on experiential education, and preserves the woods, streams, meadows and swamps located on its 236-acre property. They also manage a diversified working farm, demonstrating the techniques and principles of sustainable agriculture, horticulture and forestry as well as promoting agroecological research.

The inspiration for the Stinner Summit was Ben Stinner's rare ability to build relationships based on common interests and his vision, passion, and commitment to building healthy agroecosystems. The Summit, a day-long event held annually at a different location each year, helps build connections between participants from across Ohio who share Ben Stinner's vision. During the Summit, participants spend the day brainstorming and collaborating on projects that contribute to healthy

agroecosystems and sustainable communities. At the end of the Summit attendees decide on financial support or projects from the Ben Stinner endowment and pledge their own unique skills, labor, expertise, equipment, and more to projects proposed by the attendees.

This year, the Summit had close to 60 attendants from all over Ohio, who brainstormed 5 different projects that ranged

from developing and producing an Ohio sourced veggie burger to helping veterans and at risk populations start local foods enterprises. The discussions and networking proved powerful. The Summit is an ongoing experiment in shared decisions on important work



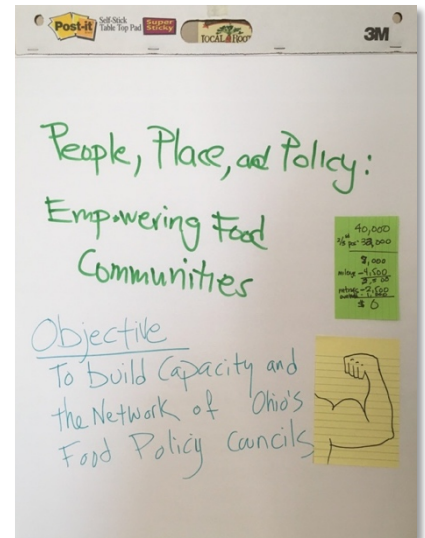
and the resources generated by the Endowment. New for this year, participants voted first on the number of projects that should be supported, with obvious impact on the level of funding available. The choice was one project, which was then voted upon by all participants. The project that was selected was People, Place and Policy: Empowering Food Communities, details follow. We hope to see you at the 11th annual Stinner Summit for a full update on their success and for new discussions on what challenges we can tackle together next.

2016 Stinner Summit Project

People, Place and Policy: Empowering Food Communities

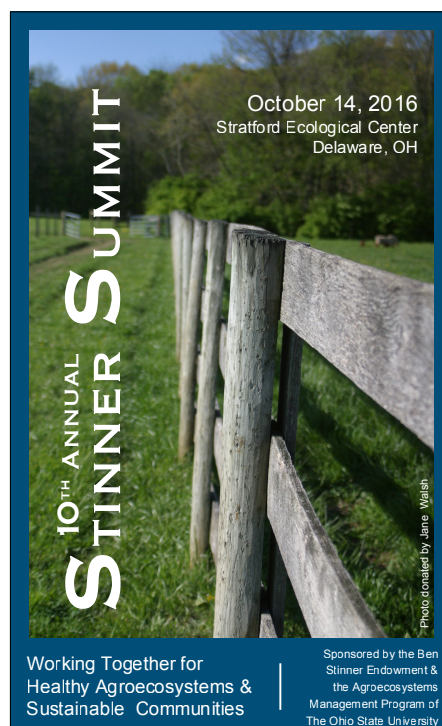
The Ohio Food Policy Network (OFPN), a group made up of key local food policy council members and supporters, has come together to improve communication and collaboration on food policy issues in Ohio. Acting as a coalition, the Ohio Food Policy Network has reconvened annually for the past four years, most recently in May of 2016, to share local innovations and policy initiatives and reaffirm a commitment to a state level food policy network. Leadership of the Network has been by volunteers, but the vision has been to formalize the Network to coordinate current food and farm initiatives across the state, foster peer learning, accelerate capacity building, and promote best practices, with broad participation of the many organizations and constituencies affected by food and farm policy.

This project will organize the Ohio Food Policy Coalition to act as a hub and conduit for peer learning and exchange, capacity building, and technical assistance for the 24 local food policy councils in Ohio, to help build healthy and sustainable food systems. If you want to get involved, please contact Amalie Lipstreu, OEFFA at amalie@oeffa.org or 614.421.2022 x 208.



About the Poster

The Poster image was generously donated by Jane Walsh, an Ohio photographer and Stratford Ecological Center volunteer. The poster was laid out and designed by Jennifer Harrison, AMP Graduate Administrative Assistant. Our thanks to Jane and Jennifer for their contributions to this year's Stinner Summit!



Ben Stinner Endowment Advisory Committee

Casey Hoy
Leah Miller
Larry Phelan
Deb Stinner

Caterer
Local Roots, Delaware

Venue
Stratford Ecological Center



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