

TFSC /Thurston Food System Council		
12.5.2012	3:00pm-5:00pm	TRPC
Meeting called by	TFSC/Food Council; TJ Johnson, Karen Parkhurst	
Type of meeting	<b>Monthly Meeting Minutes – December 5, 2012</b>	
Facilitator	TJ Johnson	
Note taker	Diane Grace <gracedd@earthlink.net>	
Timekeeper	TJ Johnson	
Attendees	Karen Parkhurst, TJ Johnson, Peter Witt, Sarah Rockers, Lucas Patzek, Jim Goche`, Lisa Smith, Lesley Wigen, Diane Grace, Loretta Seppanen, Kim Gaffi. Also Attending: Commissioner Sandra Romero; Glenn Morgan, VP Thurston Farm Bureau.	
<b>[#1] Introductions and Individual Project Updates:</b>		

- **Peter Witt, Kiwanis Garden Projects and American Farmland Trust:** Continued progress on “Local Farms, Local Markets” subcommittee with Lucas Patzek, Sarah Rockers and Treacy Kreger; and USDA Grant; “Food Hub” idea now expanded to consider other alternative options.
- **Sarah Rockers, TESC Flaming Eggplant Cafe: “Terra Madre”** Presentation on Monday, December 10, 2012 at 12 noon, Tumwater Library, With Treacy Kreger. Also, “**Terra Madre 2012 Int’l Conference in Italy**” photos and food, on Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at 7:00pm, McLane Grange, 931 Delphi Rd SW, Olympia.
- **Jim Goche`, Market Gardens NW and Thurston Farm Bureau Board Member:** Has project ideas to recommend; invited Glenn Morgan to attend today’s meeting.
- **Lesley Wigen Thurston County Public Health:** Completed Research project on Community Gardens, with 11 tallied in Thurston County, with 5 more planned.
- **Commissioner Sandra Romero, also on State Agricultural Board:** Continued work with Agritourism, South County Scenic Byway signage, Food Tours and Squaxin Tribe.
- **Glenn Morgan, VP Thurston Farm Bureau:** From 5<sup>th</sup> generation farming family; Working on Regional Farm issues, and Regulations, for example “under 5 acres is not considered a farm”.
- **Diane Grace, Food Sovereignty Nutritionist:** Distributed a draft for project consideration, “Neighborhood Emergency Food Preparedness” template, for place-based communities to plan own self-sufficient food service. Could be posted on TFSC website as resource, addressing some vision goals. Feedback requested.
- **Loretta Seppanen, Slow Food:** Wein Family Farm acquisition now in “due diligence” with grant for Farm Incubator. Pending price/expectations, Environmental Study Level 1, Water Rights. Kirsop Farm will be first Tenant. Agricultural Conservation will improve Salmon habitat on creek. New Farmers “learn and grow” food; empowered with skills, employer/employee training, with access to lending / money.
- **Kim Gaffe, GrUB:** New partnership with John Rogers School (as 2<sup>nd</sup> GrUB Farm), plus partnerships to duplicate in Mason and Grays Harbor counties. The existing 1 acre land which GrUB now leases (for \$1/year) is now being sold for \$60K “in case anyone wants to buy”. Commissioner S. Romero recommended that GrUB apply for “Conservation Futures” funding.
- **Karen Parkhurst, TRPC/Thurston Regional Planning Council:** The Regional Council will be meeting Friday, December 07, 2012 regarding “**Local Food Systems 101: What do elected officials need to know**”. In 2013, this will be a five-part series, including Agritourism, Sustainable Thurston Food Panel Recommendations; South Thurston Economic Development with EDC/Economic Development Council, CVB/Convention & Visitors’ Bureau and Lucas Patzek, WSU Ext./Small Farms. It will focus on Agriculture, “Moderate and Mighty” improvements (such as Park & Rides, how to fund, etc.) and “Game Changers”.
- **TJ Johnson, Sustainable South Sound:** (a) Progress with the City of Olympia’s Comprehensive Plan and Short Term Agricultural Ordinances, pending SEPA Review (next meeting January 8, 2013). The City Council is receptive, and accepts Urban Agricultural language (farm animals, fence heights, etc.). (b) Sustainable South Sound is advertising for a Managing Director, starting in January, 2013 (a paid position?). (c) What is the Next Step, Phase 2? TJ attended “**Climate Change & Food Production**” by Whatcom Health Department, with 100 attendees: What to anticipate in changes in Western Washington? Do we need to hold a conference here (in Olympia)? (d) TJ is completing his Master’s Thesis by June 2013 using Thurston County’s Planning of Urban Agriculture as an example.
- **Lisa Smith, Enterprise for Equity:** Announced “**Cascadia GRAINS Conference**”, **Saturday, January 12, 2013 in Tacoma**, at the STAR Center, 3873 S. 66<sup>th</sup> St. (253) 404-3939. 7:30am-8:30pm, \$95 by Dec. 21. Lucas Patzek presenting. Revive Grains as local crops; link users and producers of grains. Agripreneurship Training soon, capacitate unemployed workforce. Manifested \$250K Loan, for \$25K loans to graduates.

[#2] WEBSITE & LOGO	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>Subgroup #4: WEBSITE</b> [Peter W, Sarah R, Lesley W, Karen P]. Sarah R. will email contacts.
Discussion	<p><b>(TJ) LOGO:</b> Quick feedback is needed for Jami Heinricher on the pallet and feel of logo by year’s end. SSS/Sustainable South Sound funded her in 2012, using Food Summit profits.</p> <p><b>WEBSITE:</b> Who? How? What? [NOW!] Shared access and linkages with WSU Ext. and CVB websites discussed. “Wordpress” site, easy to post content.</p> <p>KP: Recommended Subcommittee and “Point Person/Manager” to define Content.</p> <p>Group suggestions: Resources; a clearing house of food system status and updates; linkages with GrUB and WSU Ext.; Food Council Vision and Mission Statements.</p> <p>SRomero: George Sharp/CVB has and coordinates a Master Calendar; recommended to crossover without missing or overlapping events.</p> <p>How to recruit volunteers? How to Communicate via website?</p> <p>SRomero: Recommended that “Matt Grate” be contacted, (360) 754-2868 &lt;<a href="mailto:JimboJitsu@gmail.com">JimboJitsu@gmail.com</a>&gt; .</p>

(con’t)

[#3 ] LEADERSHIP & ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE – Subgroup #1	
SUMMARY:	<p>Consensus: TJ Johnson willing to serve as Interim Chairperson, supported by 3-person Subgroup #1 (Karen, Peter, Loretta; Kim 1x), through February meeting. Subgroup #1 will define desired positions and candidates, allowing for change as appropriate. Diane Grace will type and distribute Meeting Minutes until permanent Secretary is selected.</p>
Discussion	<p>TJ: There is a need to formalize a Leadership and Organizational Structure, shared, establish in the community. “Try out”, not locked in, it can evolve (“morph”) over time. What is the structure of meetings? What structure do we need to achieve goals?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CHAIRPERSON – Agenda, facilitate meetings, title of spokesperson (?)</li> <li>• CO-CHAIR</li> <li>• COMMUNICATIONS / INFORMATION / MARKETING Officer</li> <li>• {TREASURER –needed to gather grants; no financial involvement now.}</li> <li>• SECRETARY + WEBSITE Additions. Support council transparency.</li> <li>• SUBCOMMITTEE Groups as needed.</li> </ul> <p>KG: Liked Food Summit Administration and Subgroup model. DG agreed; suggested “Rotating” model of “taking turns” to lead meetings.</p> <p>TJ: Project Group #1 could resolve issues of Leadership; Forming – Norming – Storming.</p> <p>JG: “Substance over Form”. Council can “propose and dispose”. Jim has several Agricultural projects to propose: (1) “WATER”, and (2) “DRAINAGE of Thurston County Floodplains”; Where are the ditches? Restore infrastructure.</p> <p>Food Council Members chair each subgroup topic and report back.</p> <p>(LS): Anyone with a deep passion for a goal can apply for the project which meets strategic plan and vision. Additional subgroup members can be drawn from interested Food Summit attendees, students and other citizens.</p> <p>TJ: Suggested Temporary Chair be identified, named. He is willing to continue facilitating and sending out agenda. Upon request, TJ is willing to Chair through February meeting.</p> <p>Example: There are 200 (National?) Food Policy Councils. “They are generally not “funded”.</p> <p>Include “What is Feasible” for funded / unfunded Leadership hours. “The Hotel California (you can never leave)”.</p> <p>JG: 2013 is final year of {HUD?} grant.</p> <p>Karen P: Will find a way to continue support at some level, after “Local Food 101”. If grant at Regional level, now we will have support from policy makers.</p>

[#4 ] 2012 PRIORITIES / PROJECTS	
SUMMARY:	<p><b>4 SUBGROUPS have been prioritized:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>LEADERSHIP &amp; ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b> - [Karen Parkhurst, Peter Witt, Loretta Seppanen; Kim Gaffe (one-time).]</li> <li>2. <b>PROJECT CRITERIA: Priority, Application</b> – [Lisa S, Sarah R, Jim G.]</li> <li>3. <b>“Peter, Lucas, Sarah &amp; Treacy” {Subgroup name to be advised} – Explore FOOD HUB or Alternative DISTRIBUTION support system.</b></li> <li>4. <b>COMMUNICATIONS &amp; WEBSITE</b> [Peter Witt, Sarah Rockers, Lesley Wigen, Karen Parkhurst]</li> </ol>

Discussion	<p><b>“PRIORITIES &amp; PROJECTS”</b> Brainstorming, by council attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership / Organization</li> <li>• Website / Communications</li> <li>• Peter/Lucas/Sarah/Treacy {Food Hub / Distribution Center}</li> <li>• Criteria / Process for Considering Project / Priority / Partnership</li> <li>• Establish Values / Norms</li> <li>• Build Trust through Projects</li> <li>• Support “Local Food System 101”</li> <li>• Food System Action Plan / Food Summit “closure”</li> <li>• Funding</li> </ul> <p>Peter W: Define Project Application process.          Lisa S: Meet criteria, “the Right to say this is a project of this council”          Glenn Morgan: Protect FARMER, not just The Farm. Regulatory issues can have unintended consequences.          Jim G: (Example: 1 Farmer had to interact with 17 entities, taking 3 years, \$60K in fees, just “to clear a ditch”.)          Kim G: How are we meeting people where they’re at? “at a Farmer’s table”.          Karen P: Projects: Who do we represent “without their permission”? They’re out doing the work. Reach out to sectors we represent; Listen to their voices, and include.          Glenn Morgan: Farm Internship Volunteers and L &amp; I issues; Example - Marion County, CA, Oyster Farming for 90 years: ended; “Low level of trust”.          Jim G: Pick a few small projects to unite diverse opinions, and build on successes.          Lisa S: Subgroup #2 established [Lisa S, Sarah R, JGoche`]: Articulate Values, Goals. Establish our values, norms, Norms of Behavior. Consider project priority; Application process; the Right to be endorsed by this council. How do we get projects and events started? “Internal / external, both / and” {open source shared information, progress and action, with other existing working groups outside of the Food Council.}. Build trust through projects. Communicate with community. Create a template, define outreach to community. “How do we engage and be informed by other existing groups? Co-operate with other groups, create Partnerships?          Diane G: Like a tapestry of related threads, interwoven together, strengthening the whole system, and pointing out the gaps or challenges. {Information / Communication} versus physical and Social Infrastructure. Informing, announcing; shared information.          JG: Other groups are already doing some of these things.          Inventory, keep track. Be a Positive force, to support (the other groups).          SRomero: Make sure that Actions meet Goals.</p> <p>Sarah R/Lisa S: FUNDING? (To be decided, by another subgroup).          Loretta: Subgroups should be present at 2013 Food Panels, when presenting “Local Food Systems 101”. [Agreement!]          Kim G (+ DG, TJ): (Project request) See the Multnomah County Action Plan, create a “Full Circle of Food Summit” Action Plan, in format of a report; closure, feeding back to galvanize collective impact, to the community. “We’re moving forward with your input”.          Sarah R: Put this onto website; historical, past experience, all of the contributing entities; Relates to and informs “Local Food System 101”. Informs where we want to go.</p>
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[#5 ] NEXT STEPS / NEXT MEETING	
3:00 – 5:00pm	<b>Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at TRPC</b>
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• January 2, 2013 is first Monday; Move meeting to January 9, 2013.</li> <li>• Select LEADERSHIP by February meeting?</li> </ul>

