

<b>TFSC / Thurston Food System Council</b>	
<b>August 7, 2013</b>	3:00pm – 5:00pm at TRPC
Monthly Meeting	<b>Monthly Meeting Minutes</b>
Facilitator	TJ Johnson, Chair
Notes	Sash Sunday sash@olykraut.com

<b>AGENDA:</b>
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- I. Intros
- II. July 10 Meeting Notes
- III. Public Communication
- IV. Educational presentations
  - a. Diane Gasaway
  - b. Food System Financing – Sash and Rachel
- V. WIT Reports
- VI. New Proposals
- VII. Public Communications
- VIII. Events and Announcements.

<b>I. Attendance and Introductions:</b>
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TJ Johnson, Sustainable South Sound; TFSC Chair  
 Karen Parkhurst, Thurston Regional Planning Council  
 Peter Witt, Friends of the Farmers Market and Kiwanis Garden Projects  
 Loretta Seppanen, Slow Food Greater Olympia, SSCFT Membership  
 Lucas Patzek, WSU Extension/Small Farms for Thurston County  
 Lesley Wigen, Thurston County Public Health, TFSC Communications/Website  
 Lisa Smith, Enterprise for Equity  
 Katie Rains, GRuB Executive Director  
 Sash Sunday, OlyKraut, TFSC Co-Chair  
 slan Meade, West Olympia Farmer’s Market Board

VISITORS:  
 Ron Lawson, Lacey City Council, Boys & Girls Club  
 Diane Gasaway, NWCDC  
 Celeste Wade – Crosstown Farm  
 Rachel Hynes – Rooted In co-founder and Slow Money NW Intern  
 Heather Sundean – Olympia Food Bank

<b>II. APPROVAL of MONTHLY MINUTES: July 10, 2013</b>
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No changes. Approved.

### III. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Food Bank is getting a new roof.

The person running the school garden program has left the food bank, they are hiring a new coordinator, for questions contact Heather Sundean.

produce@thurstoncountyfoodbank.org

### IV. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS:

Diane Gasaway from the Northwest Co-op Development Center

History – they focus on food systems.

Started in 1979. Started by Group Health, PCC, and REI. 1986 501c3

90's was dormant then regrouped in 2000ish. expanded to PNW (wa, or, id) and Hawaii

Member of Cooperation Works.

Located in Oly but works in all the states mentioned. 6 people.

Approach coops with 3 tenants although there are 7 principles. Member owned, benefited, and governed. Are they trying to make or save money? If not, other structure could be more appropriate.

Food Systems: in process of organizing Fresh Starts for starting food coops - conference in Portland on September 12. There will be a talk on the Economics of Local Food Supply Chain by Matt Mylet, VP Commercial Relationship Mngr at OPCB. I'll scan the handout.

Guiding the startup of coops. Encourage and push folks to do feasibility study.

They are not attorneys or accountants. Let it be known.

On Thursday - there is a discussion on benchmarks and how a Hub could be feasible.

[www.nwcdc.coop](http://www.nwcdc.coop)

Sash Sunday and Rachel Hynes from Rooted In – Discussed financing options for food enterprises in the PNW. Sash said “like” a lot but managed to convey a list of options with editorials. Rachel gave a run down of Rooted In's mission, the problem we are trying to address, and our short term plan.

We had some q&a and it was done. Perhaps someone else took notes, or if you are interested, Sash can send the power point. It was a first run.

### V. WORKING ISSUE TEAM (WIT) REPORTS:

#### a.

Membership: Loretta - Heather Sundean was selected to represent the Food Bank on the Council.

Membership WIT is nominating her.

Proposal - Approved

Also we all need to fill out their membership form in the next couple of months. Online- under "About Us" you must download it to fill it in, email back to the membership committee. (must download and click "sign" to edit the document.)

Starting the discussion on what they might want to change in October.

Winter Strong from Healthy Benefits in Shelton/Tribal Member/shellfish industry will be coming in either Sep or Oct.

Charlene Christ will be visiting in Sep or Oct.

Membership would prefer to have Winter and Charlene in October since Aslan will be the only Membership member here in September.

#### V. b.

Communications

~~Press release for the disaster preparedness project is being redrafted by Diane.~~

"Diane submitted the redrafted Press Release for the Neighborhood Disaster Food Resiliency project to Lesley and Peter on July 12, with permission for editing."

The domain name will expire on September 5th. Needs to be renewed. Owned by Sustainable South

Sound, TJ will renew for 2 years.

## V. c.

## VI. New Proposals

- Loretta wondered about something for Food Day?

National event, effort to focus on local foods and build community. Last year they encouraged to have meals with friends. They had several dinners around the county where people made food with local ingredients.

October 24th this year, a Thursday. Last year got proclamations about food day and the council. It could be a recognition thing. Do we want to engage in having a Food Day this year? Lucas wonders about working with the schools, GRUB, or some kind of community demonstration day - Living Food Day.

TJ wants to know who can do the WIT that this would require.

Lucas might if he could combine it with Savor South Sound. Schools are hard to get into. The Food Bank is meeting with school districts.

Lucas and Heather will head up this WIT.

Proposed/Seconded/Approved - Positive Propaganda / Savor South Sound WIT

Katie will follow up and see if Blue wants to involve GRUB with this Food Day project/Savor South Sound WIT.

Ron Lawson - Starting up another Community Garden - septic system failed out there, City hooked it up to city sewer and now it's just 3 acres sitting there. Projects are funded by USDA Rural Development and they are interested in the concept. Project has been recognized by Rural Dev and they are making the video for Vilsack and Obama. This project is too big, they need help. On Tolmie Cove at 32nd? Wants to have a produce stand where the members of projects can have a business. He has about 20 members who are into it.

## VII. Public Communications

North Country Development Fund and also the NWCDC also helps with grant writers.

## IX. Events and Announcements

Sustainability Plan should be on line this week. Sustainablethurston.org has the plan up, please look at it and comment on it.

Please don't talk to Karen about typographical errors. :) joke.

September 6 starting at 8:30am info panel - looking for processors, maybe Sash, some meat producers/ grain processors.

TFSC should come and talk at one of these Friday morning workshops

Lucas - Eric emailed about the Cultivating Success. Lucas is partnering with SPSCC but it might not be on their campus. Introductory course in how to run a farm. November 15th is an Ag Business Training - FREE focused on business management, taxes, food safety, hiring firing, GAPs, etc...

HUGE one day deal. Will be at LNI and it's in conjunction with E4E, Cons. District, WSDA, LNI. Grains Conference January 11. Steering committee in Tacoma including Organic Valley as well as a distillery from Fremont, Wilcox. Should be really interesting. Sounds awesome if you are into grains for any reason at all. This year will be a little more how-to details.

September OctoberFest in Tumwater - launching a local brew fest.

Thurston County Health Department is close to putting up a site for the ThurstonThrives.org 9 different action teams, economy, community resilience, health, etc.... focused on health. Robert is the contact person for that.

Lisa - thanks Lucas and Sarah for doing all the farmer research. August 21st, fund raiser - "Home Grown" agriculturally focused. \$20 to get in, and then you can give more if you like. It should be lovely, local wine, food. 5-7:30pm. Pizza Entre, Tamale Fusion sells at Fertile Ground. Assyrian food.

She hopes we will be moving forward all the people in the five county region

Katie - August 29th GRUB fund raiser - freebee with outdoor film

Annual Harvest Soiree at Alderbrook.

Loretta - Slow Food has its one fund raiser is August 24th at Colvin Ranch. Beef, Treacy and Will Taylor beef tartar or lengua tacos. ewwww. Most of the foods are from the Arc of Taste. (Ozette Potatoes...) [slowfoodgreaterolympia.org](http://slowfoodgreaterolympia.org)? \$60

Farms Forever - SSCFT - [communityfarmlandtrust.org](http://communityfarmlandtrust.org)? \$50 now. 9/21/2013 Thurston County Fairgrounds. Pairing farms with a chef. Kirsop and Will Taylor. Fido's Farm and Ninevah (Lisa David), Taylor and lots of vegies....

auction - farm or food related experiences. ie. Eric Hagan will do a permaculture analysis and talk.

Peter - Taste of the Olympia at the Friends of the Farmers Market - August 20th.

September 14th there is another seasonal dinner - last one of the year!

TJ - Table for Olympia - It happened. That was good. The planning process wasn't necessarily as great as it could have been. Lots of people never showed up, those that did, did a great job - Katie Rains rocked the house.

We have a whole year to do it better next year. Successfully shifted focus from downtown block party to local food thing. Possibly another day, because the weekends are tough in Oly. Fridays might work better.

"Rebuilding the Food shed" from Leist? Green Mountain College - coming to TESC for the Eco-Ag program. Want to have him speak in the evening. TFSC could sponsor? Third week of October – coordination handled by a multi-headed beast.

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, September 11, 2013 at TRPC, 3:00pm.**