

TFSC / Thurston Food System Council

April 2, 2014	3:00pm – 5:00pm at TRPC
Meeting	Monthly Meeting Minutes
Facilitator	Sash Sunday, Chair
Note taker:	Zachary Fleig, Secretary



Agenda

- I. INTRODUCTIONS (10 min.)
- II. APPROVAL of MEETING MINUTES (5 min.)
- III. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION (5 min.)
- IV. PRESENTATION: (25 minutes)
Community Rights Representatives
- V. PRESENTATION (20 min.)
Peter Witt
- VI. WORKING ISSUE TEAMS (WIT) REPORTS:
 - A. LEADERSHIP (10 min.)
 - B. MEMBERSHIP (10 min.)
 - C. COMMUNICATIONS (10 min.)
- VII. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION (5 min.)
- VIII. EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS (10 min.)

NEXT MEETING: **2014** at TRPC 3:00pm
 Future Meetings on 1st Wednesdays: **May 7, 2014**

Attendance and briefs on member projects:

Sash Sunday, OlyKraut
 Peter Witt, Friends of the Farmers Market and Kiwanis Garden Projects
 Heather Sundean, Produce Manager for the Thurston County Food Bank and Satellite Liaison with
 Hunger Relief Organizations

Diane Grace, Food Sovereignty Nutritionist, Nutrition and Citizens Sector Liaison
Lisa Smith, Enterprise for Equity
Lesley Wigen, Thurston County Public Health Nutrition, TFSC Communications
Zachary Fleig, TESC Campus Food Coalition Co-Coordinator
Loretta Seppanen, Slow Food Greater Olympia; South of the Sound Community Farm Land Trust (SSCFLT)

Announced the printing of the Direct Sales Farm Map: there are physical copies available in the East and West side Olympia Food Co-ops, as well as a digital version [online](#). Re-iterated an invitation to the SSCFLT Annual Meeting, Potluck and Ag Networking Friday April 11 at South Bay Grange Hall. Non-profit and government organizations working with the ag community are invited to the networking session at 5:30 pm.

Aslan Meade, West Olympia Farmer's Market and Bank Local Washington

Provided information about the March 4 meeting on commercial kitchens including a review of possible sites for such kitchens in the county.

Marco Pinchot, Community Relations and Sustainability Manager, Taylor Shellfish Farm
Lucas Patzek, WSU Extension/Small Farms for Thurston County
TJ Johnson, Sustainable South Sound

Invited participants to student presentations from the class, Ecological Agriculture: The Science and Policy of Sustainable Food Systems. Students conducting a research on one or more of the policy priorities for the local food system identified in the Sustainable Thurston report. The presentations are at TESC on March 11-13. (9 am to 1 pm at the Longhouse on March 11 and 12, 8:30 to 12:30 on March 15 at Seminary II, B1107)

Karen Parkhurst, Thurston Regional Planning Council

Attended kickoff for the Bountiful Byway project, moved forward by commissioner Sandra Romero. In short, the idea of this is to support agrotourism in rural communities.

Secondly, met with folks from HUD, EPA, Federal Transportation as a follow up to Sustainable Thurston work. Food systems was a highlighted interest.

ABSENT:

Erik Hagan, WSU Extension/Small Farms for Mason and Thurston Counties;
Mason Conservation District; and Co-Founder of West Olympia Farmers Market.
Katie Rains, Executive Director at GRuB

VISITORS:

Rachel Floyd, AmeriCorps Food Justice, CYS/Center for Youth Services and
Thurston County Food Bank “School Gardens” -” racheljacklynfloyd@gmail.com
Mike and Mary Lee Cody, **Janet Jordan**, [Community Rights South Sound](http://CommunityRightsSouthSound.org),
info@communityrightssouthsound.org

II. APPROVAL of MEETING MINUTES March 5, 2014

Meeting Minutes for March 5, 2014 were motioned, seconded, and passed for approval without changes, and submitted for upload to TFSC website.

III. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

No comments made.

IV. PRESENTATION: Mike and Mary Lee Cody, Community Rights

Community Rights activists provided background on past and current community rights projects. **Started on the East Coast, in opposition to fracking, the community governance movement aims to take back and assert local control of public spaces.**

In the South Sound, Community Rights engaged with biomass opposition in 2010. Those who were active with this locally, have continued to push forward in the spirit of that initiative. Recently: Thurston Public Power Initiative, electing Sue Gunn as Port Commissioner, I-522 GMO labeling bill, and more.

After I-522 energy fizzled with defeat statewide, they pushed on the fact that it actually passed in Thurston County (majority Thurston voters voted to approve the initiative), and are currently working to advance some broad “rights of nature” values. They are investigating a Food System Ordinance: such projects exist in Lane County, OR and Benton County, OR and focus on protecting communities from the impact of GMO plantings. Possible goals for an initiative: Food Access, Stopping and Reversing Net Loss of farmland, Strengthening rural agriculture trade, etc.

The province of Ontario, Canada has also enacted community rights ordinances — see also: Karl Maitreth, Ministry of Agriculture and Food/Ontario, “Local Food Act of Ontario” (also a Local Food Fund) Also: Franco Naccarato — Green Fund in Toronto

IV. PRESENTATION: Peter Witt

Peter presented Grow Montana (<http://www.growmontana.ncat.org/>) as a model that Peter suggests that Thurston Food System Council work shift toward being modeled after the

V. WORKING ISSUE TEAM (WIT) REPORTS:
A. LEADERSHIP No report this month

V. B. MEMBERSHIP Loretta Seppanen

Diane will be tabling for the Council at next Friday’s Farmland Trust event.

V. C. COMMUNICATIONS: Lesley Wigen

The Communications WIT is continuing to update our website. The Thurston Regional Planning Council has aided the Thurston Food System Council in upgrading our Word Press site. This should be visible as a new and improved site next month.

Our Facebook page should be revised and linked to our website next month as well.

VI. FOOD SYSTEM ACTION PLAN update TJ Johnson

Proposed Food System Action Plan is now in a draft that responds to membership concerns/edits voiced last month.

The Action Plan Proposal was brought to the table today as a *direction* of work we are interested in pursuing. After some discussion, the Council clarified that over the next few months, we will develop how to actualize the steps outlined in the Action Plan. There will be a follow-up “early framing/visioning” development meeting later this month. TJ will propose a date.

VII. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

No comments made.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS:

Following up on the food system and ag related bills that Council member Karen Parkhurst reviewed last week, she provided her report to the Council in a printed table. ****(can this be made available as a digital document on our website? do we want this info available to the public?)**

TJ reminded the Council about the Table for Olympia event — and checked interest/availability to support/facilitate this event this coming summer.

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at TRPC at 3:00pm
[Conference phone is available at TRPC for those unable to attend **May 7.**]
Future Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, June 4, 2014

Contact Chair Sash Sunday if unable to attend (sash@olykraut.com) in advance or if a last minute change occurs call TRPC for absences or late arrival notifications - 360-956.7575 or info@trpc.com