

TFSC / Thurston Food System Council

June 4, 2014	3:00pm – 5:00pm at TRPC
Meeting	Monthly Meeting Minutes
Facilitator	Peter Witt, Vice Chair
Note taker:	Loretta Seppanen for Zachary Fleig, Secretary

Agenda

- I. INTRODUCTIONS (10 min.)
- II. APPROVAL of MEETING MINUTES (5 min.)
- III. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION (5 min.)
- IV. WORKING ISSUE TEAMS (WIT) REPORTS:
 - 1. LUCAS PATZEK, KAREN PARKHURST Proposal (20 min)
 - A. LEADERSHIP (10 min.)
 - B. MEMBERSHIP (10 min.)
 - C. COMMUNICATIONS (10 min.)
- V. TASK 1 & SUCCESS CRITERIA FOR FOOD SYSTEM ACTION PLAN Peter, Katie & TJ (40 min.)
- VI. EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS (10 min.)

Attendance and briefs on member projects:

Peter Witt, Friends of the Olympia Farmers Market and South Sound Fresh
 Heather Sundean, Produce Manager for the Thurston County Food Bank and Satellite Liaison with
 Hunger Relief Organizations

Announced a Food Bank Fundraising event that evening, part of capital campaign
 Diane Grace, Food Sovereignty Nutritionist, Nutrition and Citizens Sector Liaison
 Shared pleasure in visiting the recently opened Eastside Urban Farm & Garden Center and
 encouraged all to listen to the Diane Rehm Show about sustainable seafood
<http://thedianerehmshow.org/shows/2014-06-03/environmental-outlook-sustainable-seafood>

Lisa Smith, Enterprise for Equity
 Shared the news of a grant to introduce young people to ag related jobs
 Lesley Wigen, Thurston County Public Health Nutrition, TFSC Communications

NEXT MEETING: **2014** at TRPC 3:00pm
 Future Meetings on 1st Wednesdays: **June 4, 2014**

Loretta Seppanen, Slow Food Greater Olympia; South of the Sound Community Farm Land Trust (SSCFLT)

Invited all to save the date, July 20, for an open house at Scatter Creek Farm & Conservancy hosted by SSCFLT

Katie Rains, Executive Director at GRuB

Invited all to GRubuation that evening and announced the availability of GRuB CSA shares.

Announced that the West Olympia Farmer's Market will open this coming Tuesday at 4 pm with lots of engaging activities.

TJ Johnson, Sustainable South Sound

Lucas Patzek, WSU Extension/Small Farms for Thurston County

Announced upcoming Dairy and Grazing workshops

Karen Parkhurst, Thurston Regional Planning Council

Announced another Local Food 101 presentation to the Thurston Regional Planning Council

Friday, June 6, 2014 with J.T. Wilcox, State Representative and Fred Colvin, Colvin Ranch, who will discuss their experience in larger scale agriculture. Lucas Patzek, WSU Extension, will moderate.

Erik Hagan, WSU Extension/Small Farms for Mason and Thurston Counties;

Mason Conservation District; and Co-Founder of West Olympia Farmers Market

Marco Pinchot, Community Relations and Sustainability Manager, Taylor Shellfish Farm

ABSENT:

Sash Sunday, OlyKraut

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

Susan Ujcic, Helsing Junction Farm

Zachary Fleig, TESC Campus Food Coalition Co-Coordinator

VISITORS:

Rachel Floyd, Food Bank

Michael Winkley, Food Bank

Emily Dunn-Wilder, TESC Campus Food Coalition

II. APPROVAL of MEETING MINUTES May 7, 2014

Meeting Minutes for May 7, 2014 were motioned, seconded, and passed for approval without changes, and submitted for upload to TFSC website.

III. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

None

IV. WORKING ISSUE TEAM (WIT) REPORTS:

1. New Proposal Discussion

Lucas Patzek, Karen Parkurst

In order to establish the times needed for the items on the agenda for the day, the groups discussed a proposal submitted the day before by Lucas Patzek regarding the need to gather together the "emergent public-private community and economic development partnerships related to ag/food in Thurston County in order to:

- (1) share who is doing what, with which partners, and with what type of funding,

- (2) to develop a system of prioritizing efforts based on agreed-upon criteria, and
- (3) to promote the development of new/stronger partnerships and funding strategies to minimize unnecessary cross-over and competition."

Such a gathering relates to the on-going work of many organizations and how that work can be continued without undue competition the council saw no need to take any action. Lucas and Karen plan to bring the parties together soon. It was agreed that their efforts would not take Council time away from the main activity of 2014 - the Food System Action Plan.

IV. A. LEADERSHIP	no report this month
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IV. B. MEMBERSHIP	Loretta Seppanen
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The WIT plans a Institutional Buying presentation for the July meeting. Speakers will include John Cruse, Mason General Hospital and hopefully the buyer from Top Foods.

IV. C. COMMUNICATIONS:	Lesley Wigen
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None

V. FOOD SYSTEM ACTION PLAN discussion	Katie Rains & TJ Johnson
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Peter Witt shared the outline (Table of Contents) for the first item on Phase 1.1 on the workplan to create the Food System Action Plan:

Phase 1.1: April to August 2014

- Compile and create documentation of the results from the food summit and Sustainable Thurston process.

Peter Wit plans about a 19 page Executive Summary covering the purpose and scope of the action plans, and highlighting the two major efforts that lead to a call for the action plan: the October 2011 Food Summit and the recent three year Sustainable Thurston project. He is also creating about a 15 page appendix listing the food system related projects undertaken in our area in the past three years. This document will be available soon for all to review. agreed to take the lead on pulling this material together.

In thinking ahead to the third item on the Phase 1.1 workplan - Identify and secure short-term funding to support the process through the winter of f 2014-2015 - Katie asked the group to consider what the success indicators should be for two phases of the project. Katie will use the success indicators as part of the funding proposals.

The group spent about 30 minutes indentifying and sharing success indicators at the end of food system conversations among our area's various communities (winter 2015) and success indicators at the end of the first year of implementation of the Food System Action Plan.

Very initial thoughts on success indicators for the first time period ranged included having:

- a better grasp of the limits community members face related to having access to more local foods,
- at least one large food store at the table discussion and investing in the local food system,

- the process (gathering input from those not often heard at these discussions) is regarded as part of the outcome
- A significant portion of those participating are new the discussion

Initial success indicators for the second time period included:

- People have access to more fresh foods regardless of the source
- Much more food is grown and consumed locally
- More individuals are working in the local food sector

Members were reminded that our communities have multiple local food systems that allow them to access foods appropriate to their traditions and/or restrictions. For example, some in the community seek meats butchered using halal methods. The group recognized that as communities that are often left out of the food system discussion add their voices, the vision implied from the results of the Food Summit and Sustainable Thurston may need to be changed.

The following individuals agreed to serving with Katie and TJ on the Food System Action Plan WIT: Peter Witt, Heather Sundean, Michaela Winkley and Karen Parkhurst.

The whole group agreed to spend 45 minutes working on the action plan at the July meeting.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS:

Given the hour, no announcement were made.

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, July 2, 2014 at TRPC at 3:00pm

[Conference phone is available at TRPC for those unable to attend June 4.]

Future Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, August 6, 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