

TFSC / Thurston Food System Council

Sept 10, 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 & PROJECTS (10 min.)
- II. APPROVAL of MEETING MINUTES (5 min.)
- III. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION (5 min.)
- IV. WORKING ISSUE TEAMS (WIT) REPORTS:
 - A. LEADERSHIP (5 min.)
 - B. MEMBERSHIP (5 min.)
 - C. COMMUNICATIONS (5 min.)
- V. FACILITATED DISCUSSION - projects and assigned initiatives (65 min)
- VI. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION (5 min)
- VI. EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS (15 min.)

Attendance and briefs on member projects:

TJ Johnson, Sustainable South Sound - indicated that TFSC members may be contacted by St Martin's students doing a community assessment to determine if SSS should continue to exist. Members may receive a link to a survey. TJ is teaching the Food: Coevolution, Community and Sustainability class at TESC this fall with Karen Hogan.

Diane Grace, Food Sovereignty Nutritionist, Nutrition and Citizens Sector Liaison - Diane would like the TFSC to consider the proposal she sent out on doing a nutrient analysis.

Lisa Smith, Enterprise for Equity - Invited all to the 15 year celebration of the Enterprise for Equity this coming Sunday. The event will feature current program graduates and the creation of 33 acre farm incubator project at Scatter Creek Farm & Conservancy. She also announced the Dec 8 Farm to Fork event at the Expo Center.

Peter Witt, Friends of the Olympia Farmers Market and South Sound Fresh - shared that former member, Lucas Patzek will be working for the Ag Innovation Network in California. He will continue work on the [3rd Cascadia Grains Conference](#) Saturday, January 10, 2015 at SPSCC.

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

- Aslan Meade, West Olympia Farmer's Market, Bank Local Washington, part-time with Enterprise for Equity. Shared information on the Oct 5 Young Farmers Mixer in Rochester. He reported that the West Olympia Farmers Market will be moving to the West Central Park in 2015.
- Lesley Wigen, Thurston County Public Health Nutrition, TFSC Communications - Lesley reported on the efforts of the Community Garden Project which had been scheduled for another 2 years of funding but lost funding due to a federal government change in the use of funds. This area has 10 community gardens versus 11 two years ago. There has been gains, however, in that gardens have been added as churches and at the Lacey Senior Center.
- Katie Rains, Executive Director at GRuB - Katie provided an update on the Food Action Team work she co-chaired with Robert Coit. GRuB is doing veteran outreach.
- Karen Parkhurst, Thurston Regional Planning Council
- Loretta Seppanen, Slow Food Greater Olympia; South of the Sound Community Farm Land Trust (SSCFLT) - *Invited all to SSCFLT's September 20 Farms Forever Dinner* and shared a listing of fall events including the some of the Timberland Reads Together October events focused on food. The listing will be added to the TFSC website.
- Michaela Winkley, Food Bank - substituting for Heather Sundean - Announced the Food Bank fund raising event at the Governor's Mansion Oct 7 - <https://commitchange.com/wa/olympia/thurston-county-food-bank/events/healthy-foods-healthy-futures>

ABSENT:

- Sash Sunday, OlyKraut
Susan Ujcic, Helsing Junction Farm
Zachary Fleig, TESC Campus Food Coalition Co-Coordinator - requested leave of absence
Marco Pinchot, Community Relations and Sustainability Manager, Taylor Shellfish Farm
Erik Hagan, WSU Extension/Small Farms for Mason and Thurston Counties; Mason Conservation District; and Co-Founder of West Olympia Farmers Market

VISITORS:

- Zack Holcomb, AmeriCorps member at the Food Bank working with school gardens
David Skattebo, TESC student examining inequalities in the local food movement - davidoriskattebo@gmail.com

II. APPROVAL of MEETING MINUTES July 2, 2014

Meeting Minutes for July 2, 2014 were motioned, seconded, and passed for approval without changes, and submitted for upload to TFSC website.

III. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:

David Skattebo described the work he will be doing as part of his study at TESC this fall.

IV. WORKING ISSUE TEAM (WIT) REPORTS:

IV. A. LEADERSHIP no report

IV. B. MEMBERSHIP no report

IV. C. COMMUNICATIONS: Karen Parkhurst

Payment is due by the end of October for the domain name registration maintained by the TFSC. Karen reported that she will check if TRPC may be able to cover this minimal cost. Lisa Owen indicated that E4E could cover that cost if TRPC could not fund the domain name payment. Karen said work on the updated website would be completed in several months.

V. FACILITATED DISCUSSION - projects and assigned initiatives - Katie Rains

Katie Rains reviewed the work of the council and the Action Plan WIT related to the development of a local food system plan. She described factors that have lead to that work stalling out. Each council member and guest provided their feedback on the work they would be willing to undertake in an effort to achieve by the end of 2015. It is clear that participating together is of importance to most members of council. Many members shared a view that their focus on food issues is part of a their commitment to a larger change agenda. Many are interested in committing time to networking, education and outreach related to changing the community desire and demand for local food. Some are committed to planning work related to that end. Some desire actionable work rather than planning work.

Karen Parkhurst recommended an approach to include voices not currently at the table (such as intuitional food purchasers, tribal communities, farmers) different than the current effort to add a member from each such group. She suggested including annual presentations from those communities or attending events where those groups already are presenting their ideas about the food system.

Food Day: Given the action oriented interest of members, the group agreed to put a focus on Food Day, nationwide celebration and a movement for healthy, affordable, and sustainable food. Members shared events in the works and discussed possible additional events. Some events being considered include a potluck at GRuB, school garden parent dinner at a local school, possible chef prepared inexpensive dinner at the Olympia Farmers Market with information shared on "how to buy local food." Food Day events can be registered on a nationwide event listing at https://foodday.nationbuilder.com/forms/user_sessions/new (starts with a sign in requirement)

VI & VII. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION, ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS:

Guest participated in the facilitated discussion. Given the hour, no announcement were made.

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, October 1, 2014 at TRPC at 3:00pm

[Conference phone is available at TRPC for those unable to attend in person.]

Future Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, Nov 5

Tentative Key Agenda Items for Oct 1

- How should the TFSC respond to the request from Sustainable Thurston to "develop a local food systems plan, including a production capacity analysis"?
- Further planning for multiple Food Day events, Friday October 24. Members are encouraged to share, with the council, information about their events their working before the Oct 1 meeting.

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