

Meeting - January 6, 2016
3:00 - 5:00 pm
Thurston Regional Planning Council

Members Present

Lesley Price, Alyssa Auvinen, Loretta Seppanon, Mary K Johnson, Tara Witten, Lisa Smith, Aslan Meade, Katie Rains, Peter Witt, Marco Pinchot, Sarah Moorehead, Justin Smith, Rachel Friedman

Public Attendees

Marcella Shannon, Liz Davis

Documents Provided

Agenda, Council Intake Form, Priorities from F.A.T meeting

1.) Introductions, New Council Membership, Public Communication, Events and Announcements

Rachel Friedman from Sustainable South Sound was welcomed into membership. TJ Johnson has formally resigned.

Announcements:

- Sustainable South Sound has reaffirmed their support for the Community Garden Program and will be soliciting for additional gardens in addition to the Olympia Community Garden.
- Slowfood - Brunch on Sunday 11:00 - 1:30 at Eastside Urban Farm and Garden, and March 2 the national director will be in town.
- Mary K will be developing a grant and a program for marketing/branding for non-profits
- Enterprise for Equity - There will be new entrepreneurs at the incubator farm.
- South of the Sound Farm Land Trust - Annual meeting on March 18 at Swede Hall in Rochester. Also, they will be working with the Thurston Conservation District on transition issues for land owners. Lastly, they have an opening for a development/administration staff for a 2/3 position with hopes for a future executive director.
- Thurston Conservation District will begin their 2016 Farmer workshop series on January 11 with a vegetable seed production presentation. Also, on March 5 they will have their Annual Native plant sale and supervisor vote.
- Thurston Economic Development Council is going to be hiring a marketing staff. The Cascadia Grains conference is January 9 at SPSCC. Aslan has been appointed to the Agri-tourism board and will be working with the Port to help fulfill issues.
- GRUB's kitchen garden project is taking applications until the end of January.

2.) Standing Working Issue Team (WIT) Reports

Leadership -

Elections: Co-chairs - Katie Rains and Aslan Meade, Secretary - Leslie Price (Rachel Friedman alternate), Treasurer - Alyssa Auvinen -- The slate of positions was approved.

Grant Funding Proposal in February: The grant will be submitted by one of the partners. It is still on track for February. TJ, Katie R, and Lisa S will work on this (Sarah M wants to stay in touch and will be fiscal agent).

Communication - Mary K J. has produced a council member intake form to be completed by all member either online or Mary K J. will key it in.

ACTION ITEM: Email or send to her by the next meeting.

Minutes - Minutes from December meeting were approved with stated corrections.

Legislative - The Washington Food and Farming Lobby Day is February 8.

Inter-food group relations

Will be based on Sustainable Food System Framework which links economy, social and environmental impact. F.A.T does a good job for social impact (health and social system). TFSC does a good job with farming, economic and environmental impact. Bringing both groups together can accomplish a broader framework. Hope to come all together in February to determine alignment and make decisions on when people can attend meetings and what they will work on. Presently, F.A.T. wants to meet 3-6x/yr and TFSC wants monthly meetings. This will be resolved. Katie will confirm 2016 meeting schedule. Proposal is first Wednesday of the month with a placeholder for 8:30 - 11:30 am (to be winnowed to a 2 hour meeting).

3.) Establish 2016 Priorities

F.A.T will be providing a presentation to the Coordinating Council at the end of the month. The Community Investment Partnership (CIP) wants to know the priorities of the action teams for future potential funding activities that will align with the Thurston Thrives priorities.

F.A.T's priorities are 1.) Reduce hunger, Reduce food waste and improve distribution, 2.) Educate

For the CIP priorities, we should frame our priorities broadly to help us tell who we are and what our diverse group does together (stronger together vs. alone).

Additional priorities listed:

Housekeeping - establishing values (education, waste, economic development)

Collect and share data: for collective impact, for policy making, Mary Ann at the County is a resource, TRPC staff can also support, 2015 Food System Report (WIT - Justin S., Katie R., Mary K J.)

Recognize aquaculture as a subset of agriculture - ensure healthy water quality, continue to improve and expand

Education and regulation

Votes were cast and Katie R took those notes.

Respectfully submitted, Rachel Friedman, Sustainable South Sound