

South Sound Food System Network	
Date/Time/Location	October 5, 2016 - 9:30am – 11:30am - TRPC
Document	<b>Monthly Meeting Minutes</b>
Chairs	Katie Rains and Aslan Meade (Co-chairs)
Note taker	Lesley Price, Secretary

**1) Introductions & Announcements** (*Announcements written on sign-in sheet are included in meeting minutes*)

1. Aslan Meade, Thurston Economic Development Council
2. Cathy Visser, Senior Services for South Sound, Senior Nutrition Program
3. Chris Koehler, WSU Grays Harbor Extension
4. Diane Grace Crutcher, Retired, Food Sovereignty
5. Karen Parkhurst, Thurston Regional Planning Council
6. Katie Rains, Garden Raised Bounty (GRuB)
  - a. GRuB's got lots going on, as always.
  - b. Exploring possibilities for 2017 Victory Farm (veteran-led community farm); preference for URBAN & PUBLIC/ORGANIZATIONALLY owned – all ideas welcome.
7. Kelly Smith, Thurston Economic Development Council, Intern
8. Laura Woodworth, Thurston County Food Bank, Dietitian
9. Lesley Price, Thurston County Public Health
10. Lisa Smith, Enterprise for Equity
  - a. Land to Grow On event Oct 13<sup>th</sup>
  - b. State Ag Listening Session Nov 17<sup>th</sup> 4-7
11. Loretta Seppanen, South of the Sound Community Farmland Trust; Slow Food Greater Olympia
  - a. Oct 8 Farms Forever
  - b. Dec 10 1-3 (tentative), TESC Farm House, report back from international slow food meeting – good, clear, fair food worldwide
12. Marcela Shannon, Garden Raised Bounty (GRuB)
  - a. Also going to standing rock on the 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. GRuB School has brought composting to Capital H.S.!
13. Mary K Johnson, Corona Communications
  - a. Going to Standing Rock, ND at the end of the month to take part in the biggest nonviolent action in my lifetime to protect the water with the largest gathering of indigenous people EVER! (according to various sources) #watherislife! #NoDAPL
  - b. Looking for design work over the fall months!
14. Nora White, Thurston Conservation District
15. Peter Epperson, Community Involvement Coordinator, Community Kitchen
16. Peter Guttchen, Thurston County Solid Waste
  - a. Less is More film festival, Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> 6:30 – 11pm, Olympia Film Society
17. R Jeanne Rehwaldt, Mason Matters

- a. Laughter! Not Stigma – free event 10/19/2016 @ 6:30pm, comedy show centered around mental health & substance abuse, sponsored by NIMA and Thurston-Mason Behavioral Health Org. (Mottman Rd SW)
- 18. Rachel Friedman, Sustainable South Sound
  - a. Looking for board members
- 19. Shelley Ferer, League of Women Voters Thurston County
- 20. Stephen Bramwell, WSU Thurston County Extension, Director
- 21. Victoria Wortberg, Thurston Asset Building Coalition

## 2) Standing Working Issue Team (WIT) Reports

- Leadership/Housekeeping
  - Action Required – Approve September Meeting Minutes
    - September 7, 2016 Meeting Minutes approved by participants
  - Next Steps for Charter Additions
    - Pending – Housekeeping WIT has not met
  - Schedule End of Year Celebration
    - Katie will send a doodle poll to find a date/time that most participants can attend
    - *Cathy will send a doodle poll to check interest in changing time of SSFSN meetings for next year*
- Communications
  - Website updated [www.ssfoodsystemnetwork.org](http://www.ssfoodsystemnetwork.org)
  - Please use Facebook for Events
    - Can also post events on website (email events to Mary K)
  - Agendas and Minutes are posted on the Thurston Thrives Food Team page <http://thurstonthrives.org/action-teams/food/>
    - Mary K will add Agendas and Meeting Minutes to network website as well
  - Remember to use libraries for promotion

- Legislative
  - Legislators currently “on hold” until election is over
  - Would like to increase food rescue, need legislative support
  - Think about what we want to move forward (What are the policy barriers?)
  - Would like a one-pager on food issues we are working on
  - Need more education, possibly a year-long campaign
  - Would like to work on informing the Farm Bill
  - Karen will organize a planning meeting for the end of October
- Data – Templates & 2015 Report Timeline
  - Need to get some 2015 data
    - Katie will send out a Google form to submit data from organizations on Friday, October 07, 2016
      - Send back to Katie by October 21, 2016 (2 week deadline)
      - Send easily accessible data that already exists
- Zero Net Loss
  - About saving farmland
  - Do aging farmers know about turning over their farmland? They need legal help to do this.
  - Chehalis River Basin Project (money for easements)

### **3) Assist with State Food System Roundtable Efforts – Lisa Smith**

- Focuses on environment, people and economy; influence policy and practices for a statewide strategy; created a prospectus that has been reviewed by numerous people

- Eight groups around the state will be reviewing the prospectus and providing feedback from the general public
  - One of the eight groups will meet in Olympia on November 17, 2016 from 4p – 7p
    - Need a host, possibly the SSFSN

#### **4) Institutional Procurement Discussion**

- Institutional Procurement WIT met in September, decided to share opportunities that SSFSN participants can collaborate on
- Aslan Meade (Economic Develop Council)
  - Aslan provided summary handouts from last year's Anchoring Local Food Event on October 29, 2015
    - Mary K – Still need a narrative to connect all the feedback that was provided by the participants
      - a. Would like to have a writing meeting
      - b. WSU Thurston County Extension interested in compiling the data
- Steven Bramwell (WSU Thurston County Extension)
  - Discussed some key results from the Farm to Market Assessment survey conducted by his predecessor, Lucas Patzek
    - What is the potential for growers?
    - Potential for institutional purchasing pilot project
  - Ag Listening Sessions
    - Highest amount of comments were about marketing for farmers
    - Highest priority needs are capital and infrastructure for farmers
    - Three trends
      1. Market decline
      2. Capital/Infrastructure
      3. Institutional purchasing
- Cathy Visser (Senior Services for South Sound)
  - Discussed challenges to purchasing local foods for the Senior Meals Programs (15% of budget)

- Several decentralized sites that purchase their own food
  - a. Have to use petty cash to purchase local foods from farmers market
- Pricing of local foods
- Defining local
- Distribution
- Lots of donations during the summer
- R Jeanne Rehwaldt (Mason Matters)
  - Working on collective impact, using Insight Vision for data, create strategy maps
- Lisa Smith (Enterprise for Equity)
  - Who (institutions) is buying local foods?
  - Building capacity in farmers to meet buyers' needs (currently could not meet capacity)
  - Work with incubator farms
  - Pledges at Farm to Fork to purchase more local foods

## **5) Upcoming Presentations & Agenda Items**

- November
  - Strategy Map Update Session
  - Review & Adopt 2015 Food System Report
  - Food & Education Presentation
- December
  - Review & Adopt Updated Strategy Map
  - Leadership Team Elections & 2017 Priorities

## **5) Adjourn**

## **6) Next Meeting November 2, 2016**