



SSFSN Minutes

January 3, 2018, 9:30-11:30AM

Thurston Regional Planning Council - 2424 Heritage Ct SW Suite A, Olympia, WA 98502

Officers Present: Katie Rains, Grub & Chair; Cathy Visser, Senior Services, Secretary & TABC Food Hub Rep; Lesley Price, TC PHSS & Website Coordinator. Vice Chair and Treasurer vacant.

Other Members Present: Stephanie Abraham, TABC, Rachel Friedman, Sustainable South Sound; Elaine Vradenburgh, Window Seat Media; Nora White; Thurston Conservation District; Shayna Wiseman, Educator; Sammy Berg, TC Environmental Health; Jeannie Rehwaldt, CEO Mason Matters; Alyssa Auvinen, WA DOH; Karen Parkhurst, TRPC; Mayra Pena, TABC; Jenni Crain, Slow Food; Stephen Bramwell, WSU; Tara Witten, WSU SNAP-Ed; Celeste Wade, South of the Sound Farmland Trust; Marilyn Sitaker, TESC; Chris Koehler, WSU Ext. GH; and Martha Rosemeyer, TESC.

1) Self Introductions/Announcements – Introductions were made. Members are encouraged to send announcements to Lesley Price at PriceL@co.thurston.wa.us to be posted on the SSFSN website.

2) Standing Working Issue Team (WIT) Reports

- **Leadership/Housekeeping (20 minutes)**
 - **Action Required** - December 2017 minutes approved.
 - **SSFSN Charter** – Changes to the Charter were proposed to accommodate a Chair and Vice Chair structure vs. Co-chair structure, enhance the values section, and to make any other changes desired by the group. Diversity and openness statements were expanded. Changed key relationships to make note of our regional focus. Will add bullets to each leadership position task stating that leaders can delegate tasks as needed as long as they ensure that the work gets done. Members present were in agreement with changes edits made to the Charter.
 - **Vacant Leadership Roles** – Vice Chair & Treasurer. Celeste Wade is willing to be Vice Chair. The group gave a thumbs up for Celeste. Whitney Trotta sent a message to Alyssa that she's willing to serve as Treasurer. The group gave her a thumbs up. Katie will be on sabbatical for the next two months and Celeste, Cathy and Lesley will cover for her.
- **Legislative (10 minutes)**
 - Karen distributed and reviewed a list of food/ag related bills. The current priority for TRPC is to continue to work on regional transportation plans.

3) SSFSN 2018 Priorities & Establish WITS: Katie reminded the group that WITS can only exist when members are willing to meet and move things forward. Over the next year or longer, she hopes that we can work on updating the strategy map and replace the one currently on the

Thurston Thrives website. Marilyn Sitaker is willing to help move this forward. Elaine Vradenburgh of *Window Seat Media* discussed oral story telling project work. They would like to do a storytelling workshop in Thurston County, e.g., by asking Food Summit workshop attendees how they have put what they learned into practice. Katie asked for members present to come forward if they're willing to be part of any of the issues listed above. Members present volunteered to join some of the WITs listed below. Opportunities for additional volunteers will be made available at upcoming SSFSN meetings.

- **Leadership** – Katie, Celeste, Cathy, & Whitney.
- **Food Summit Next Steps** – Marilyn (temporary lead), Katie (long-term lead), Celeste, Cathy, Shayna, Jenni, Elaine, Stephen, Martha, and Jeanne. Martha suggested that Chris Coffee, Evergreen professor and food writer might be interested in participating.
- **Communication & Outreach Next Steps** – Lesley, Jenni, Celeste, Jeanne, Whitney, Elaine, Katie, Marilyn, and Karissa (website support). A lead is needed for this group.
- **College Engagement** – We should consider partnering with SPSCC, TESC, Centralia College, and other regional campuses for mutually beneficial programs. Martha is on sabbatical, but she's willing to help get Evergreen students involved in the fall.
- **Local Food Policy & Feasibility Assessment for Food Processing Facility** – addressing challenges in county, state, and federal regulations and infrastructure that effect food producers. Stephen (lead), Jennifer, Jeanne, Tara, Rachel, Martha, and Marilyn.
- **Legislative/Statewide Policy & Advocacy** – Karen...anyone else?
- **Collective Learning & Strategy Development** – let's shape a new strategy together by the end of the year. Marilyn (lead?), Katie, Jeanne, and Lesley.
- **Community Garden Resolution/Projects** – The City of Olympia has adopted a strategy to support garden projects so each resident can access a garden within ½ mile of their homes. Rachel (lead), Jeanie, Nora, Shayna, Elaine (?), and Cathy willing to serve on a WIT.
- **Youth Advisory Network and/or Mentor Project** – who would like to volunteer for this WIT? How can we get young people at the table?

Katie proposed that we make time on the March 2018 agenda to review the SSFSN annual report. She asked that members bring forward food system topics they'd like to explore over the next year to the February meeting.

Adjourn - 11:30 AM

Next meeting - February 7, 2018 at TRPC

Next Steps:

- ✓ Katie to email Celeste and Cathy about what she heard today for next steps.
- ✓ WIT Leaders should meet and move issues forward.