



## **SSFSN Minutes**

**May 2, 2018 9:30-11:30AM**

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

**Officers Present:** Katie Rains, Grub & Chair; Celeste Wade, Sound Farmland Trust, Slow Food & Vice Chair; and Cathy Visser, Senior Services for S. Sound, TABC Food Hub Rep. & Secretary.

**Other Members Present:** Sammy Berg, PHSS Environmental Health; Rachel Friedman, Sustainable South Sound; Jeannie Rehwaldt, MC Community Connections; Karen Parkhurst, TRPC; Stephen Bramwell, WSU Ext.; Joel Hansen, Slow Food & Tumwater FM; Nora White, TC Conservation District, Alyssa Auvinen, WA DOH; Lesley Price, TC PHSS & Website Coordinator; Eileen Grigsbey, Community Member; Mary Dimatteo, Olympia FM; and Lisa Smith, E4E.

**1) Self Introductions & Announcements** –Introductions and announcements were made. Members are encouraged to email event information to Lesley Price to be shared via the SSFSN email system and SSFSN website.

### **2) Leadership Working Issue Team (WIT) Reports**

- Leadership/Housekeeping (5 minutes)
  - ✓ Action Required – March & April minutes were approved.
  - ✓ Communication Norms
    - In the interest of reducing email volume while keeping participants informed and engaged, email communication will be bcc'd to reduce email traffic; please reply to the original sender or discuss at our monthly meeting.
    - We believe that a thriving food system will require the contributions of ALL stakeholders & that our work together is non-partisan. To establish the norm, we ask that SSFSN participants are considerate of the content that is shared with the group and avoid highly politically biased content in favor of inclusion.
    - Rachel Friedman was approved as Treasurer for the SSFSN for the remainder of 2018. Alyssa has handed treasury documents on to her. Rachel stated that she will bring a document outlining our grant writing norms by June 2018.
    - Food System Infrastructure. The group broke into groups to discuss food system infrastructure such as farms, roads, commercial kitchens, community gardens and food processing facilities. Katie gathered notes afterward from groups to use to report back.

- Objectives: a) Develop a working inventory of existing food system infrastructure. b) Develop a working inventory of planned/in process food system infrastructure. c) Use this information to inform SSFSN strategies.
- Food Infrastructure includes and is not limited to water, distribution systems, slaughter facilities, farmland, processing facilities, co-packing facilities, urban gardens, and food hubs.

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

- Food Processing Group – will meet May 14<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. at the Olympia Senior Center.
- Legislative (10 minutes), Karen Parkhurst stated that this is a good time to contact our legislators. She said the governor’s budget is coming together right now.
- Farm Bill – Farm Bill – Alyssa mentioned that some of the proposed changes in the farm bill will decrease access to SNAP/food stamps. Katie suggested that the Thurston Asset Building Coalition also advocate to protect SNAP. Katie asked that Alyssa, Karen, Mary, and Marilyn draft a letter of advocacy. Agencies will have an opportunity to sign off on the letter or decline to do so.
- Local Food post card campaign – two final cards to be printed *Love your leftovers* and *Put your money where your mouth is*, which focus on food waste prevention and the value of buying local food.
- Communication & Outreach (5 minutes) – If you have information for the website, send it to [ssfood@gmail.com](mailto:ssfood@gmail.com)
- Feasibility Assessment for Food Processing Facility (5 minutes) – Stephen reminded the group of the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting and asked that people think about their goals around food processing, and bring case study information to him. He is coordinating a rapid assessment with Mary to be held at the Olympia Farmers Market this summer.

### 4) Adjourn

#### Upcoming Meeting & Agenda Items:

- June 6, 2018, 9:30-11:30 a.m., SSFSN Meetings at TRPC.
- NO MEETING IN JULY
- August 1, 2018, 9:30-11:30 a.m., – SSFSN Meetings at TRPC.