



SSFSN Minutes

June 6, 2018 9:30-11:30AM

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

Officers Present: Katie Rains, Chair & GRuB; Celeste Wade, Vice Chair & Sound Farms; Cathy Visser, Senior Services for S. Sound, TABC Food Hub Rep. & Secretary.

Other Members Present: Mayra Pena & Stephanie Abraham, TABC; Tracy Smaciasz, Heritage Meats; Jenni Crain, Slow Food; Rachel Friedman, Sustainable South Sound; Karen Parkhurst, TRPC; Stephen Bramwell & Sydney Debien, WSU; Joel Hansen, Slow Food & Tumwater FM; Nora White, TC Conservation District; Lesley Price, TC PHSS & Website Coordinator; Chris Koehler; WSU GH; Eileen Grigsbey, Community Member; and Marilyn Sitaker, TESC; 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
- Action Required –
 - ✓ May minutes were approved.
 - ✓ Financial Status – Rachel reported that we are waiting for our existing cash balance report from the Chamber Foundation. The group agreed to use the balance toward future SSFSN projects, like more rack cards or events.
 - ✓ SSFSN Collaborative Grant Proposal Norms – Rachel drafted grant proposal norms to help members avoid unwanted competition in grant proposals. Generally, the group felt that norms as written looked good, but suggested that we have a process for quick turnaround for letters of support. Rachel and Karen will review the document and present a revised version in September for approval.
 - ✓ MOU with Thurston Chamber Foundation – Katie will reach out to ensure that the Chamber Foundation is willing and able to continue to sponsor our bank account. They have not charged us for this service, which originated through the Thurston Thrives movement. Stephen asked that we find out their administrative overhead fee in the case that we receive a future grant for deposit into this account.

3) Food System Infrastructure Follow-up Discussion

- In April we discussed the need for food infrastructure for food processing and preparation. A general discussion of the information ensued. The goal is to have a working inventory of existing and needed food processing infrastructure to be used as a resource to inform strategy and to report back to the community about needs. Marilyn

volunteered to do the data entry from the May meeting. She and Katie met to discuss this issue, specifically around the food infrastructure map Marilyn put together. The group discussed how we might setup a useful database in the future. Karen suggested that we start by putting links to our organizations on the SSFSN website. She called for a committee to discuss this issue and develop a vision for a database. Celeste may have someone to move this project forward. Katie will start an email thread to focus on what the database might look like: vision, next steps, concerns, and how to move it forward. Marilyn, Stephen, Katie, Joel, & Celeste

4) Standing Working Issue Team (WIT) Reports

- Legislative – Karen reminded the group about the Farm Bill, which is still being considered at the national level. Katie will sign off on the WA-specific Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition farm bill opposition letter. Cathy to send her the letter.
- Communication & Outreach – Katie to send out an email request for information from each organization to include on our website.
- Feasibility Assessment for Food Processing Facility – Stephen reported that the group met in May and has a draft survey put together, which will be shared with WIT members, including Joel, Cathy, and Lisa. The survey will have to go through the WSU Internal Review Board, which should be relatively simple. He will share it with the SSFSN for feedback. The Rapid Market Assessment (RMA) will be done at the Olympia FM on August 11th. He asked for volunteers for the RMA. Site visits to include Link Foods in June in Spokane, which is collective aggregated gardening and malting; Port of Skagit August 28 or 29; and Blue Mountain Station out east in late September. A gathering of experts that could include a food tasting could happen this fall.
- Local Food Culture Campaign – Katie passed out the rack card “Put your Money where your mouth is.” Love your leftovers is on its way which will complete the local foods campaign. Jenni suggested a few racks to hold all cards in key locations in the community. She will look into this project, which could also be crafted by a seamstress. Katie will find out how much it will cost to print more.
- Community Garden WIT – Rachel met with the City of Olympia to discuss garden funding, but no outcome has been met at this time. Joel reported that the City of Tumwater is working on putting a metropolitan park district on the ballot.
- Collective Learning & Strategy Development – Marilyn and Katie to meet on this soon.

5) Adjourn

Upcoming Meeting(s) & Agenda Items:

- NO MEETING IN JULY/AUGUST •
- September 5, 2018 9:30-11:30AM – SSFSN Meeting @ TRPC