



SSFSN Minutes

April 3, 2019; 9:30-11:00AM

Thurston County Public Health and Social Services – 412 Lilly Rd. NE,
Conference Room 107B; Olympia, WA, 98506

Officers Present: Marilyn Sitaker, Co-Chair, TABC Food Hub Rep., & TESC; Rachel Friedman, Treasurer & Sustainable S. Sound; Joel Hansen, SSFSN Event Point Person & Tumwater Planning Commission; and Cathy Visser, Senior Services for S. Sound, & Secretary.

Members Present: Stephen Bramwell, WSU Extension; Lisa Smith, Enterprise for Equity; Mayra Pena, TABC Coordinator; Lesley Price, TC PHSS; Maija Glasier-Lawson, FSCSS & SSFSN FB Page Coordinator; Chris Koehler, GH WSU Ext.; Diane Grace Crutcher, Community Member; Krosbie Carter, Thurston Thrives, Aslan Meade, EDC, Tracy Smaciarz, Heritage Meats, Peter Epperson, CCS Community Kitchen; Kelsey Mae Crane, TC CPED, and Rob Spinks, SSSS.

1) Self Introductions, Updates & Announcements

- ✓ **NEW:** Members are encouraged to email May and June activities and events you'd like to share via SSFSN group email to Lesley Price at PriceL@co.thurston.wa.us and/or to Maija Glassier-Lawson at maijag@fscss.org to be posted on the SSFSN FB page.

2) Leadership Working Issue Team (WIT) Report

- ✓ Action Required – March meeting minutes were approved.
- ✓ Financial Report – Rachael reports that the bank balance remains at \$1,797.14.
- ✓ Thurston Thrives (TT), Krosbie is using the SSFSN Charter as a model for TT. She will be calling community committee representatives together for a meeting on April 15th with Kaiser Permanente representatives. Kaiser would like feedback about community health issues and she would like to include a representative from SSFSN to be at the table. Kaiser recently provided grant funding to TT to help them meet their goals and activities.
- ✓ Thurston Asset Building Coalition Update - Marilyn stated that they'll be having an open house soon, inviting all committees for information sharing. TABC is looking for funding and for intensive equity training, which will be open to health hubs/action teams.

3) Standing Working Issue Team (WIT) Reports

- ✓ Communication & Outreach, Maija is keeping our SSFSN FB page going. Info sent to Lesley will be posted. We still need someone to keep the SSFSN website current.
- ✓ Community Garden WIT, Rachel reported that this WIT met again in February and is planning community garden tours for this summer with the first tentative date set for July 9th. Tours will include Tumwater Fresh, Olympia Community Garden, Garfield School Garden, and West Central Park Garden. Next meeting April 9th at 4:30 pm at TCPHSS.

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- ✓ Ag Park/Food Processing WIT, Stephen reported that current topics of discussion include the upcoming Value-Added Food Processing Workshop, May 15th at the TC Fairgrounds, Heritage Hall, 6-8:30 pm. We'll be sharing information from last year's Rapid Market Survey and from interviews with farmers/CSA's and institutional buyers. Marilyn will share some national food processing data. Cathy & Joel reported on field trips to the Meal on Wheels People in Portland, Oregon State University in Corvallis, Red in Portland, and other sites. We'll be gathering information from local commercial and certified kitchens. One goal is to draft and implement a kitchen needs survey in 2019.
- ✓ Future Food Summit – Joel would like to form a WIT and plan another summit. Ultimately, he'd like to see us hold an event annually. We'll add it to the agenda for May.

4) Guest speaker – Aslan Meade, EDC

- ✓ SW WA Agricultural Park update – Aslan shared that the chosen site is 13 acres outside of Tenino near the waste water treatment plant. It's a business park model, so any business located there will have to pay close to market rate rental fees. The master plan is nearly done for this project. They are about to launch the infrastructure phase to connect the site to public utilities. They currently have 5 local businesses that have expressed strong interest in the site. They are looking for other solid tenants. The project is likely 1.5-2 years out. He's also willing to recruit businesses out of the region if necessary. Ideally, a large anchor tenant would be helpful. A potential medium-sized anchor kitchen tenant could be Senior Services providing senior meals and possibly managing rental kitchen space. This project has a legislative ask in the WA budget now. The Ag Park is in the House budget but not the Senate budget yet for Capital budget funding. *Now is the time to write letters of support for this funding.*
- ✓ Local Investment Network - Aslan also shared information about the Thurston Investment Network (THINK), which has been finding investors for local businesses. This is a community asset, so spread the word.

5) SSFSN Survey Results, Marilyn

- ✓ 17 people responded to the survey. Nine questions were asked.
 - Top three areas of interest: 1) Food Access/Equity/Food Insecurity; 2) Economic Development for food producers and rural communities 3) Sustainable Ag/Infrastructure.
 - Top reasons for participating included information/sharing, collaboration, collective impact, volunteer opportunities and policy/system change.*Survey details will be emailed to everyone and the results discussed again in May as we decide how to move SSFSN priorities forward.*

7) Adjourn

Upcoming Meeting(s) & Agenda Items:

- Wednesday May 1, 2019 at TCPHSS
 - Discuss SSFSN priorities for the year, based on member interest & survey results.
 - Guest speaker – Pat Rasmussen on Renewable Agriculture.