



**SSFSN Minutes**  
**September 4, 2019; 9:30-11:00AM**  
**TC Public Health & Social Services**

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

**Members Present:** Stephen Bramwell, WSU; Taylor Egordo; Thurston Thrives (TT) Mayra Pena, TABC Coordinator; Maija Glasier-Lawson, FSCSS; Lesley Price, TCPHSS; Chris Koehler, WSU Ext.; and Krosbie Carter, TT.

**1) Self Introductions, Updates & Announcements** – Participants shared their organization’s activities for September/October/November. Send all event flyers to Lesley.

**2) Leadership Working Issue Team (WIT) Report**

- ✓ Action Required –August meeting minutes were approved with a time change for the upcoming food summit.
- ✓ Financial Report, Rachel. Krosbie will send an update on the balance.
- ✓ Thurston Thrives Update, Krosbie gave an update on the Hope Theory. The TT Coordinating Council will meet September 16<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm at the TC Courthouse. Included on the agenda is a discussion about the Hope model; and finalizing the goals for TT for 2019. On the 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at the SPSCC Minaret Center, John Tunheim will be reviewing Hope 101 and how the County intends to use the work. Snacks and heavy appetizers will be served, the event is free, but please RSVP.
- ✓ Thurston Asset Building Coalition Update, Mayra reported that the open house was a success. It was attended by a few SSFSN members, plus representatives from each of the other Hubs. Participants were able to ask questions about the Hubs, but it was primarily a relaxing celebration of TABC work.

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

- ✓ Food Summit, Maija & Joel – They have decided to hold the event at the Lacey Community Center instead of SPSCC. Maija asked who signs contracts for rentals and other financial agreements and Krosbie thought it was members of the leadership group. Tentative date is Saturday, March 14, 2020. Registration will open at 9 a.m. Classes starting at 10 a.m. and local food vendor tasting/marketing starting around 1 pm. Stephen suggested that we make time on the next agenda for all of us to help with planning the Summit. Lesley reminded the group that each food vendor will need to apply 45 days in advance for a temporary food permit.
- ✓ Community Garden WIT, Rachel – Two community garden tours were conducted over the summer with details in past SSFSN minutes. Rachel wishes us to continue our work

to expand community garden access in the community. The City of Olympia supports community gardens without funding; however, they assessed the proposed site behind TC Regional Planning Commission building and came up with a price tag of \$60k to get water to the site and develop it. Sustainable South Sound (SSS) cannot support the garden at that amount. The City of Olympia asked SSS for a sustainable plan for a community garden so they can consider supporting such a project. SSS is exploring a partnership with TESC and St Martin's students and faculty to build the garden at the courthouse hill site. She's would like to see the project structured as a community garden model. She's looking for volunteers to help move this project forward, so reach out to her if interested.

- ✓ Ag Park/Food Processing WIT, Stephen – The WIT, which includes Marilyn, Cathy, & Joel met in July and is drafting a list of potential contacts for the commercial kitchen/food processing user survey. Email Stephen with people you feel should be included on the email list for the survey. In general, WSU & Senior Services for South Sound (SSSS) is working on a feasibility assessment with the support of Christine Buckley at the Business Innovation Center. They're drafting two business plans. Jenni Post is helping draft the WSU food processing kitchen business plan. Cathy Visser of Senior Services for South Sound is working on the business plan to support their senior meals operations in Mason and Thurston Counties - and potentially to support other community kitchen needs. There was a regional meeting in August on food system development involving Lewis, Grays Harbor, and Thurston County with an end goal of supporting local farmers while providing local food to institutional food buyers like hospitals, schools, and restaurants. Stephen will be visiting the Community Harvest commercial kitchen project in Fort Wayne, Indiana this month and will report back.

**4) Presentation at TESC's Fall Equity Symposium (proposals due October)** Marilyn shared that there is a call for proposals and suggested that our group do an equity presentation at the upcoming symposium. She asked if anyone would like to take the lead on writing a proposal. Contact her if you're interested.

**5) Leadership Transitions—group discussion.** Marilyn asked members to bring forth ideas for moving forward. Rachel would like someone else to take over as treasurer. Celeste would like to step away from the co-chair role as she doesn't feel as connected to the community at this time. Attrition of membership, esp. in some sectors, is an issue. Active outreach is needed. Rachel is willing to help with that. The change in venue might be an issue. Personalized contact is preferred.

**6) Upcoming Meeting(s) & Agenda Items:**

- ✓ Wednesday October 2, 2019 at TCHD