



SSFSN Minutes
March 4, 2020
TC Public Health & Social Services

Present: Marilyn Sitaker, Co-Chair, TABC Food Hub Rep. & TESC; Celeste Wade, Treasurer;; Lesley Price, TCPHSS; Chris Koehler, WSU Ext.; Mayra Pena, TABC; Taylor Egordo, Thurston Thrives; Deb Crocket, GRuB CEO; Patrick Rofe; Community Farm Land Trust; Colleen Minion, TC Public Works; Heidi Smith, Bounty of Families; and Cathy Visser, Senior Services for S. Sound & Secretary.

1) Self Introductions, Updates & Announcements

- Attendees shared organization activities for March & April. Email Lesley Price information and fliers you'd like to have sent to the SSFSN group email.

2) Leadership Working Issue Team (WIT) Report

- Action Required – February and March minutes to be reviewed in April.
- Leadership team help – Co-chair, treasurer (?), and secretary needed. Marilyn met with Taylor about potential intern support through Thurston Thrives and she's looking into an Evergreen student intern. Joel Hansen to take on secretarial duties in the interim.
- Financial Support – Celeste reports that the checking account balance is still \$1422.
- Thurston Thrives – Taylor reported that they are going to try to help recruit members and people willing to take on leadership positions through the TT social media network. She encouraged us to finish updating our strategy map so they can post it on the TT website.
- Thurston Asset Building Coalition Update – Mayra reported that they are partnering with AARP to provide tax support in the community – 7 sites in TC offering free tax prep for low- to middleclass people. They're also promoting the Earned Income Tax Credit.

4) Standing Working Issue Team (WIT) Reports

- **Food Summit** – postponed until fall. Mayra is letting sponsors know. Marilyn reported in for Maija that vendors who signed up will be refunded. Website is updated. The Lacey Community Center will be closed to rentals as they upgrade their HVAC system September – November. We may have to consider other venues. The overall feeling was to hold off until spring 2021 - and to start laying out a realistic plan.
- **Ag Park/Food Processing WIT** – The Port is willing to support a pilot project for a value-added processing kitchen, but they don't have funding for continued feasibility study work in 2020. Stephen has touched base with Paul Flock at OSPI to see if a school district kitchen could be used for this purpose. WSU and EDC continue to explore how to create a food hub in this region similar to the one in the Skagit Valley called the Puget Sound Food Hub.
- **SSFSN Strategy Map** – Marilyn, Lesley, and Deb met to review historical and existing strategy map information. They will summarize and share this information with the

group. She suggests that we take a look at the most pressing problem - look at the data and poll the network to get input. She suggests looking at what is being done in each area already, which will help us identify the gaps, determine the resources available, and assess the interest in the group to address specific issues. Lesley suggested using Survey Monkey to poll our members.

- **SSFSN Website** – Chris and Lesley keep the website updated. At present, blogs come up on the homepage. Chris is trying to make the homepage a series of photos and she'll keep trying, but wanted to make sure that the group agreed.

6) Upcoming Meeting(s) & Agenda Items: Marilyn asked that we move the next meeting to the second Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at TCHD. Lesley has reserved a room at the TCPHSS. We'll send out save the date along with the minutes.