



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 8, 2020 9:30-11:00AM

Location: **VIRTUAL MEETING** via Zoom

Joel Hansen; Celeste Wade; Marilyn Sitaker; Deb Crockett; Cathy Visser; Heidi; Maija; Loretta Seppanen; Eileen G; Mayra; Lesley Price; Patrick Rofe

1) COVID-19 Response Efforts: Working Issue Teams (WIT)

- Ag Park/Food Processing WIT
 - Farmer Resources - per Marilyn HUB is still in process.
 - Farm-to-Consumer Links - Nora has the Farmers Basket Page up from the Conservation District; Joel is working on the Buying Club (FoodClub.ORG); Community Farm Land Trust is focusing on putting the Farm Map online instead of distributing a print version.
- Food Security/Emergency food system --
 - Eileen @ Food Bank -- 10-3pm pop up at St Martins on Thursday; They need bags, volunteers, monetary donations
 - Melissa Davis - put together a Resource List
- Gardens (Celeste, **Deb**, Martha, Michaela, Lesley, Cathy, Amanda, Joel) -
 - WEB Site: 3 categories of info for the SSFSN web page - local, general, higher level policy type. Will get links to Com WIT.
 - Tumwater: City of Tumwater is giving 10K to schools for gardens; Fresh Farm was planted by volunteers, they need more folks to volunteer to maintain it.
 - GRuB - Currently has a Free seed shed open. The victory garden project (backyard garden bed builds) they have been doing since the mid 90s is increased this year. They had planned for 50 beds, but have requests for 100's! They are making videos and instruction manuals, and taking their model national as well.
 - Looking at how to scale up the process in our community: they usually make 3 raised beds out of lumber or use 20 gallon root pouches. They are looking at 200 gal pouches which could quickly be set up for 'pods' of gardeners, a group in close proximity to each other with leader to organize and help maintain. They need volunteers, funds, seedlings, trucks, finding the pods and who would receive the gardens.
 - The need is to scale up very quickly, they are not ready to open wait list at this time.
 - Asset Building Coalition may have some grant money to help
 - West Central park is looking for starts, funding, board members and volunteers

- Food Resilience WIT (Jeff Crane, **Marilyn**, Martha)
 - Currently doing assessments for what the needs in the community are . . . getting some funding for both universities to be able to work on projects

- Communications WIT (**Marilyn**, Celeste, Maija, Jennifer, Mayra)
 - COVID 19 Response Page with links to organizations & area resources
 - -- WITS should keep a gdoc re needs for the different projects. internally at this point, will push out to public later if needed. Similar to Noras dbase/spreadsheet.
 - walked through the mockup of the new format.
 - encouraged everyone to add resources to the spreadsheet or to send to Marilyn

2) Self Introductions, Updates & Announcements

- Check in: How are you doing?
- Family Support Center very active: Pear Blossom & housing options; distribution of resources is available m/w/f; NEEDS: water bottles, diapers- food, hygiene items
- Heidi - markets & producers meetings - april 14th & May 8th virtually will send links
- Loretta - May 9th potting up party still happening; email info & fb page resources
- Deb - wild edibles and other classes are all online now

Upcoming Meeting(s) & Agenda Items:

Next Virtual Meeting: May 6
 COVID- 19 response efforts