

**Minutes of: Food System Council**

<b>Date:</b> July 28, 2011	<b>Location:</b> Heritage Farm, 1919 NE 78 <sup>th</sup> St. Vancouver, WA 98660	<b>Recorded by:</b> Theresa Cross
<b>Time:</b> 4:00-6:00pm	<b>Mtg. chaired by:</b> Jill teVelde	<b>Reviewed by:</b> Team

**Present:** Theresa Cross, Elspeth Durek, Carolyn Gordon, Erin Harwood, Ron McKnight, Cyndie Meyer, Debe Nagy-Nero, Warren Neth, Kristine Perry, Jennifer Prouse, Tammy Rodriguez, Gayle Rothrock. **Guests:** Carrie Beck (SeaMar- WIC)  
**Absent:** Robert Bacon, Paul Childers, Dion Hess, Jhon Kuppens, Greta Lavadour, Anna Petruolo, Amanda Schlegel, Amy Sidran, Summer Steenbarger, Barbara Underwood

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Follow-up</b>
<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	Jill called the meeting to order. Introductions made.		
<b>Meeting Minute Approval</b>	Minutes approved as written.		
<b>Brief Updates</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Elspeth explained that the Growing Groceries Mentor Program (GGMP) which has been coordinated by Clark County Public Health through an AmeriCorps position to support community gardens &amp; gardeners is being transitioned to WSU Extension and the Master Gardener Foundation. Carolyn Gordon and Dean Sutero will be the contacts, beginning in August. Public Health is seeking ways to partner with mentors and other community groups to help new gardeners with “what’s next?”, e.g., planning, planting, harvesting, preserving, etc.</li> <li>2. Theresa distributed a letter of support drafted from the FSC for Public Health’s application for a Kaiser Foundation grant focused on expanding healthy options in corner stores &amp; restaurants and SNAP benefits at farmers markets.</li> <li>3. Theresa distributed copies of the Executive Summary of the draft City of Vancouver comprehensive plan, explaining that there are opportunities for FSC to provide a letter of support and/or comment on 4 new proposed policies, Community Development (CD) 14, 15, 16 &amp; 17 that can influence health. Public hearings are scheduled for Aug and Sep, and more before the end of the year.</li> <li>4. Warren distributed Urban Abundance’s Grow Vancouver schedule of events</li> <li>5. Cyndie shared that Diabetes Education classes are starting up this fall at SWMC. The 5-week course is \$35. She has flyers with that can be included in newsletters.</li> </ol>	Jill to sign letter.	Group requested more details about the specific policies before deciding how to proceed. Theresa to bring more info to Aug meeting.
<b>Cascade Harvest Coalition</b>	Jill & Elspeth announced that the Coalition has chosen Clark County to be the location for a “farm to table” event with 2 goals: 1) increased farmer & buyer connections, and 2) increased sales to small farms. Successful events have been held in other parts of the state;		Sub-group to report out each month.



<p><b>Food Day</b></p>	<p>Clark County was chosen in part because there is an active Food System Council and clear interest &amp; support. The FSC would assist Coalition staff to determine the specific institution group (restaurants, government, schools, hospitals, prisons, childcare centers, senior feeding sites, etc.) to target, suggest local farmers and buyers for the Coalition to contact, help create an invitation list, find a location &amp; promote the event. A sub-group (Jill, Elspeth, Theresa &amp; Summer) has been in contact with the Coalition. Erin would like to be part of the planning and shared that the event sounds similar to a very well-attended Farmer-Chef Connection event in Portland last year &amp; may be a model for us. She suggested local farmer/cheese-maker Lorrie Conway, Chuck’s Produce &amp; .NW Organics as other local speakers. This event could be billed as FSC’s Food Day event.</p> <p>Elspeth distributed brochures &amp; info cards; FSC members each took a small supply to use in their promotions. Elspeth will order more and inquire if they are available in other languages. Theresa &amp; Elspeth will compile a list of Food Day activities from the brainstorm list &amp; add them to the national Food Day website. They will draft a letter using Food Day and FSC logos &amp; send to FSC members to use in their communications with community groups. Members re-grouped to continue planning brainstorm from last meeting &amp; review progress to date, and reported out to larger group. Lists to be compiled &amp; sent to entire council.</p>		
	<p><b>Next meeting: August 25, 2011 – Heritage Farm</b></p>		

