

Minutes – South Whidbey Tilth Business Meeting – July 17, 2014
Posted September 12, 2014 Unapproved

Present: Prescott, Edward Hueneke, Jean Nelson and Kirsten Clauson. **Absent:** Tom White and Marc Wilson, who sent excuses. Also present: J.C. May, Michael Seraphinoff and Dorcas Young.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Prescott at 6:33 p.m. The meeting was held at the South Whidbey Tilth Sustainability Campus.

Announcements/Introductions

Council members were reminded that there will not be a meeting in August. The next meeting will be held in the Community Building at Trinity Lutheran Church on September 18th.

Minutes

Motion was made and seconded to accept the June minutes with correction. Motion carried. The minutes will no longer be published in the newsletter, but will be available on the Tilth website under the “About” section along with the newly amended bylaws.

Treasurer’s Report

With the deposit of money recently received from the sale of 3 of the donated tractors, the current balance is \$8,966.91. The Market is nearing the “break even” point for the year. Income is at \$2,019 and expenses are at \$2,051, which is less than last year. Income from both commissions and booth fees is higher than last year.

Market Report – Kirsten Clauson reported that the Sunday Market is going quite well. After some discussion the Council passed on the proposed purchase of a screened tent for use on Sundays. A canopy that will be used for the Aug. 24 Wag N Walk event will be stored at Tilth and will be available for use. Concern was expressed about keeping the grass in the Market area watered and green during the summer. It was decided to keep an eye on it and to water if necessary. Prescott shared the results of her on-going yearly market comparison sheet showing that along with an increase in visitor count, the gross sales for the first 10 weeks of the 2014 Sunday Market is ahead of the 12 week sales amount for 2013.

Land Stewardship - Kirsten Clauson reported that the tiller is out of commission. It may be a problem stemming from the use of gas with ethanol in it. It will need a flushing, tune-up and check of all the filters. There is a possible volunteer for the Land Stewardship Committee chair position. The upper meadow was partially mowed, but is adequate. J.C. is continuing the collection of noxious weeds from the property. The garden gate repair will be completed soon, but volunteers are still needed to complete the additional fencing around the garden for vole control.

Education – Michael Seraphinoff reported that the workshop in June on Noxious Weed Control given by J.C. May was well attended and very informative. Michael is working on the Tilth display board for the Fair and welcomes any ideas and volunteers to help.

Membership/Community Relations - Prescott, Marc Wilson and Gary Ingram are actively working on updating and streamlining the member database.

Old Business -

Whidbey Island Area Fair – The steward schedule for volunteers is completed. Fair posters are available on-line to download and distribute. Tilth and the Grange are responsible for the set-up. Along with the Tilth brochures and educational display, there will be information on the Lesedi Farm project as a model of agricultural sustainability.

Sustainability Banquet – The banquet is Wednesday August 20th on the Tilth campus beginning at 5:30. There will be campus tours available beginning at 5:00. Marc Wilson will be coordinating the event with Janella Riegel assisting. There is a raffle planned for the evening and donated items are still needed. Kimmer Morris and Debbie Zick have agreed to be the musicians for the evening. Tilth will be supplying the main entrée and attendees asked to bring their own local food or beverage.

Whidbey Island Farm Tour – Tabled for now, but looking at a special meeting before the September 20, 21 event.

Dedicated Offering – This Sunday July 20, the Freeland Unitarian church is dedicating their collection from the 10:00 am service to South Whidbey Tilth. Prescott will represent Tilth by giving a short three-minute presentation.

New Business -

Nonprofit Guide – South Whidbey Tilth has been contacted with an opportunity to buy a space in the Nonprofit Guide insert that will be included in the South Whidbey Record and the News Times. The Guide is a listing of area nonprofit organizations with their information and numbers to call to volunteer. Cost will be \$100. Motion was made and seconded to spend \$100 to be included in the Nonprofit Guide. Motion passed.

Newsletter - Newsletter deadline is August 1.

With no further business, meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm

Respectively submitted
Jean Nelson, Secretary