

Tilth business meeting, July 16th 6:30 pm  
Present: Prescott, Michael, J.C., Marc, Pete,

Prescott reported that we will be allowing a wedding party to park on the Tilth land Friday and Saturday, August 28-29.

Minutes of the June 25 meeting were duly moved, seconded and approved.

#### Finance Report:

Edward reported that the Microsoft Grant Program page is updated. He also reported that the county assessor's office thought that their recent assessment is fair, but there is the possibility for an appeal. Edward doesn't think that we can very easily succeed at an appeal. But there was some interest in seeking an appraisal of the land for comparison next year. He also took us through the monthly budget sheet, pointing out various interesting features.

#### Market Report:

Sales are down a bit this year.

Pete reports that the service line for wifi is in. (Pete and Mokihana donated this cost.) Our volunteer electrician will come by this week to begin work on the electrical installation part of the project. We approved the project previously, but we will be paying \$200 for an antenna. Then we will have a monthly \$60, approximately, to pay as a user fee to Whidbey Telecom. Prescott will pursue a Whidbey Telecom one-year fee waiver grant. We may consider turning off wifi during the winter. Something that could possibly save us some \$200 or more of the annual \$700 cost for wifi.

Prescott reports that the Intern proposal, to be funded by a benefactor, is becoming more developed. At this time the proposal is for a Feb. thru Dec. 2016 part time intern market manager-land use coordinator. Goals of the project include market management and program building on the Tilth land, including the ongoing training center on sustainable food growing, and resource conservation practices.

#### Land Report:

Marc reported on the things accomplished, things going on at present, and future plans for the implementation of the irrigation installation project. Pete reported that initial monitoring of our water use suggests about 80 gallons of water use a day. Further monitoring will probably alter this number. Pete also reported that he replaced a water hydrant to Dorcas's garden. There is another hydrant leaking that is in need of repair.

#### Education Report:

8 people attended JC's weed control class on July 12. 10 people have signed up for Sally's winter garden class to be held July 19. Next project is the fair. There is a sign up sheet for volunteers to sign up for helping with produce before the fair and to serve as a superintendent during the fair. Pam Nodus is coordinating again this year. Tilth normally has an exhibit at the fair. Prescott suggests an alternative to pesticides poster and pamphlet project. Marc, Prescott and Michael have shown interest in helping on this.

#### Membership report:

Sustainability Banquet Report: Theme suggested by Anza, Marc and Annapoorne, Celebrate Tilth Stewardship. Posters are suggested for distribution and sale. Food by potluck and Dorcas and Ed may contribute to cooking. Annapoorne will see to tables and chairs.

Newsletter schedule: July 20 start preparing and publish by around August 3.

Other business:

Conflict of interest policy revision was submitted by Marc. Duly moved, seconded and approved by the council.

Marc nominated Pete to join the Tilth Council, role to be determined, Ed seconded that and the council approved our latest member.

Farm tour planning for September 13 and 14. Jim Lux is planning on antique tractors and cars this year. There will also be a BugaBay workshop. Tour is 10-4 both days. We have a lot of material from last year. Recruiting volunteers needed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm