

The meeting was called to order by President Prescott at 6:46 p.m. in the Nursery of the Trinity Lutheran Church annex. Other council trustees present were Michael Seraphinoff, Pete Little and Edward Hueneke; member J.C. May also attended. Judy Kaplan and Fred Rouge had conflicts. Dorcas Young did not appear.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

End of the season potluck for apprentices to the Community Gardening Leadership Training Program, Monday, October 24 at 6 p.m., at Coyote House.

Film night is Sunday, November 6 at Mark and Melissa's featuring their film, Cultivating Kids, it will also be shown that afternoon at the Clyde Theatre.

MINUTES: Michael wrote up notes from the September 15 meeting. No one had any corrections or additions. It has not been reviewed against the audio recording.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE REPORT: Edward has nothing in particular to report. Nothing significant. He suggests we invite our bookkeeper to future meeting to better understand the reports.

Meg Weis will do the internal audit later in November. Edward has her contact information.

The 2017 budget proposal is not ready yet, but will be distributed by email.

LAND STEWARDSHIP

Request to move RV to Tilth: A family of a mother and three young children has asked to move their RV (recreational vehicle) to Tilth and serve as caretakers for the winter. They wish to use the kitchen, bathrooms and classroom when not in use by Tilth activities. They would use power to keep the RV batteries charged. The caretaker would release Tilth of any legal liability. A clear list of caretaker duties is requested. The mother has provided three references and her professional resume. Utility use can be monitored and used as an exchange for caretaker duties. She is currently employed part-time locally and does children's entertainment.

Affordable housing in Island County is hard to find. This request is only one of several requests that have occurred recently. The council believes the need for a caretaker has become more apparent as members have expressed vulnerability when on the land alone. Prescott proposes to implement a task force to continue the original site plan, which includes a caretaker cottage and an office/classroom/library. Some concerns expressed by council members: be careful not to erode the tax-exempt portion of the land; find out how our insurance would be impacted; contact our lawyer about consequences; the land with debris or power tools may pose dangers to young children. The Homeless Coalition may have some guidelines in place. Perhaps a neighborhood gathering is in order to introduce residents along Thompson Road and members who are often on the land in order to build familiarity.

Prescott will contact the county and our insurance company with speculative questions and follow up on references. She and Pete will develop initial caretaker duties, which are likely to evolve as the experience brings up different issues. [Island County allows an RV to be used as a temporary living space, if there is construction happening on site. The permit is good for one year and may be extended for another six months.] A member is working with the county to allow temporary housing such as RVs as permissible when water and sanitation is available. At this time camping is only allowed in designated camping grounds.

Little Vehicle for Change: Mokihana presented Prescott with information about the mobile home created by Aurora Levins Morales, who has MCS (Multiple Chemical Sensitivities). She is from New York state and traveling around the country to address safe, clean, climate-friendly building and living solutions. She anticipates being in our area at the end of December. After checking out any liability or legal constraints, we agreed to welcome her to live for up to a week in her 35-foot vehicle on the Tilth campus and to align with and help promote her program. Morales may decide our site is not appropriate. For more information see:

www.littlevehicleforchange.org.

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Apple Crop: without the farm stand or the market being open, we have extra left. Michael will offer left over apples to people at the work party Sunday, October 30.

(J.C. needed to leave)

Heating in classroom: Pete has energy efficient oil heater to loan. He warned about fire hazard and suggested putting metal around the existing heater. Perhaps curtains can be used to hold heat.

Pre-winter Work Party: Sunday, October 30 from 11 to 2. A task list has been distributed to the membership and will be posted. Vendors and community gardeners will be invited. People are encouraged to bring food to share, but we'll purchase pizzas too. Market vendors will be invited to share opinions about the season.

Hot Water in the Bathroom: Tom Vincent has donated his used electric water heater, which is in good condition. Lance has provided a bid to do the electrical part, presented at the last meeting. Pete recommends installing a shower with a heater in one of the restrooms. The process will move at incremental stages. Maintaining the Fragrance-Free Principles for cleaning the restrooms and kitchen presented by Pete and Mokihana many years ago will be continued without compromise (fragrancefree23.blogspot.com). If power is extended up to the worm bin area, the estimate is \$350, Pete thinks it could be as little as \$200 if we do the trenching. Some of this can be discussed at the Sunday work party.

MARKET

State of the market: as of the October 9 market, gross sales are lower than last year, \$3,267 less, at \$30, 776. Sales commissions, \$2,819, exceed last year's by \$329, vendor average the same at 11, customer average less at 111.4, last year 130, but we operated more Sundays in 2015. The last date of the market this year was to be October 16, but it was cancelled due to severe weather warnings. We chose to not have a make-up market October 23 as most farmers had little to sell.

EDUCATION

Education Display at Tilth Conference: Prescott has paid to attend the conference on November 11 to 13, Michael will attend only to staff the display. South Whidbey Tilth paid for its membership to the new merged Tilth which allows up to three of us to attend without our own membership. A table is reserved for us at \$150, Prescott is working to find a farmers or organization to split the eight-foot table and cost. The council agreed to fund \$75 toward the table. If no partner is found we won't do a table.

How to Use the New Compost facility: Tom Vincent has been approached by Angie to conduct a workshop for the community gardeners. No date yet.

OTHER BUSINESS

Honoring Marlene and Eric Will: Daughters Diana Hubner and Penny Brennen are flying in to the area. The event is Saturday, November 19 beginning with the walnut tree planting at noon. We have a lot of work to do to clear the paths and prepare the planting sites. Judith Gorman and Perry McClellan provided the trees and they need to be divided. At 1 p.m we go to Maxwellton Beach to dedicate a teak bench and read a poem. Afterward we go to the Church of Latter Day Saints near Langley to enjoy refreshments and share memories and watch the videos Diana made of both Eric and Marlene.

Giving Tree ornaments: Prescott suggested engaging Carla Walsh and Angie in making ornaments of teale.

Holiday Party: Michael will ask if Anza or Marc would host it again.

Annual Membership Meeting: Anza has offered her slide show about her experience in Kenya this summer working with farmers. The offer is enthusiastically accepted. A nominating committee needs to be formed to elect four new council people. The terms of Positions 3, 5, 7 and 8 are expiring. No one is holding position 8, Edward is currently position 3, Dorcas is position 5 and Michael is position 7.

Internship: Angie may leave before the last month of her commitment. There is a donor Pete has been talking to who is open to underwriting the funds for next year's apprentice. Prescott suggested having a special event to

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acknowledge Angie's service. She has said she wants to continue to be active with us beyond her internship and possibly serving on the council.

Call for Adjournment: All agreed at 8:03 p.m.

The meeting was audio recorded and Prescott wrote this account.