

**South Whidbey Tilth Business Meeting**  
**June 15, 2017 — 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. meeting**  
South Whidbey Tilth Sustainability Campus

**Present** — Trustees Angie, Edward, Prescott, Judy, Andréa and Ida; members J.C., and Michael; and intern Emma Geiger

**Welcome and Introductions**

Emma Geiger was introduced to all as our 2017 Sustainability Intern, she started June 4

Approval of minutes of May 18 meeting with no changes

**Announcements**

**Front Porch Aha aha's – Saturday, July 8, 7 to 9 p.m.** — Pete and Moki's Vardo comes to Tilth, Bring a dish to share for potluck, enjoy some storytelling and get inspired about what it takes to 'make do' and find out more about our GoFundMe project. Learn more at <http://vardofortwo2.blogspot.com/p/setting-roots.html>

**Cultivating Kids** at the Grange on Thursday, July 13 at 5:00 hosted by Slow Food Whidbey Island. It will be a showing of the movie and a potluck dinner along with a talk by Melinda Gardener from WIN. The event will be open to the public and free of charge. Same day, July 13 there is an organic farm school open house/potluck dinner, 6p.m.

**Picnic Potluck** at the Organic Farm School is Thursday, July 13 starting about 5:30 or 6 p.m. R.S.V. P. to attend, <http://hosted.verticalresponse.com/761347/f3f755f141/1482403371/59f4e33594/>

**Finance report** — Edward

Status of Sustainability Fund held at Coastal. Ed suggests that we move some dedicated funds into general funds. There was agreement. There was a reminder of how important it is to thank the donors who donated some of these dedicated funds. CD will be moved by Prescott from Coastal to Heritage savings account. She will move the existing amount in the savings account at Heritage to checking before depositing the CD amount into the Heritage savings, so the Sustainability fund is the sole amount.

**Land Steward's report** –

Ida clarified our conservation easement location:

There is no conservation easement on the Tilth land. The western portion of the property is in tax-exempt status under the "nature conservancy" designation, which means it has to be left in its natural state so long as Tilth is not paying taxes on it. (A conservation easement is a permanent legal agreement between a landowner and a qualified easement holder, such as a land trust, which doesn't necessarily affect property taxes, but often does.) Tax exemption, on the other hand, can be removed at any time if the property owner pays several years of back taxes.

Consensus seems to be that camping is only allowable in our non-exempt area. Insurance company response from Sarah Fray, PLC Insurance: "I checked with Liberty Mutual and they would be unable to include the camping under your current policy, we would need to re-write the insurance with another carrier, and I'm anticipating the total annual premium would increase from \$804 annually to between \$1,500-\$2,000 annually." Andrea will try to find out if we need to actually acquire more insurance for camping in the non-exempt area. Would we need it only if we were charging people to camp or even if we did not charge them more than a membership? Ida will first try to make sure that the county will agree that camping is even allowed on our land.

Prescott reported on the following:

**Whidbey Island Grown brand relaunch** — We reviewed the Whidbey Island Grown website material before the meeting at <http://www.whidbeyislandgrown.com>. Using coupon code wig2017 during membership signup for a \$50 discount for 2017 will make our fee for this \$50. There was agreement that we would join in the category of Market.

Bruce Fallon will come mow next week. Prescott and JC will help determine where he mows.

**Forest Trail plant identification** event per Tom Vincent and Cleveland Hall involving membership (and public?). Prescott will arrange a meeting and invite everyone on the board to help plan this event. Others who expressed an interest are Andréa, Angie, Emma and Ida.

**South Whidbey Acoustic Music Festival 2017** needs volunteers to help set up and on the day of the event we need a traffic coordinator and a person to work a checkin station. Judy, JC, Michael, Emma.

**Market report** — Judy

Jerry is making sandwich boards for the market. There is a need to have volunteers to set them out. J.C. is still encouraging Bayview farmers to bring us produce for Community Produce.

**Education report** — Angie reported she is interested in creating an educational program with microscopes and magnifiers for the Fair display in keeping with the theme “Being Seen in 2017.” She will meet with Emma and Prescott.

**Whidbey Island Area Fair (WIAF) display** — educational display must be entered by Sunday, (or Saturday) July 15 or 16, 1-7 p.m. in the Burrier Building and set up by Noon, Tuesday, July 18. Be sure to arrange with Chuck Prochaska by June 30. Andréa will work on the Agriculture Department stewardship part of our participation in the fair.

**WIA Fair** stewarding the agriculture department with the Grange — Entries, judging is Tues., July 18, 1 to 7 p.m. Committee to develop a schedule prior to this day to clean the facility, plan the structure with Chuck, superintendent. Prescott will coordinate a planning meeting with the Grange, Tilth and Beekeepers.

**Sustainability potluck and Raffle** — planning committee formation will be done by Prescott and Emma, network with Slow Food WI for an August 10 event. Judy will coordinate the raffle part of sustainability banquet. Raffle item solicitation from membership and an announcement through Prescott to Marc.

**Next meeting is Tuesday, July 11.** Plan to meet at Tilth on the porch or in the classroom at 6 p.m.

**Adjournment** was called about 8:15 p.m.

*Minutes taken by Michael Seraphinoff, volunteer*