

South Whidbey Tilth Business Meeting
Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 5:30pm
Bayview Sears House

1. Ida Gianopulos who facilitated, called the meeting to order. Attending were council members Edward Heuneke, Susan Prescott, Andréa Linton, Angie Hart, and Kirstin Clauson. Also present were members Pete Little, Paula Richards, Fred Rouge, J.C. May, Mokihana Calizar, Michael Seraphinoff, and Janet Richards. Janet agreed to take meeting minutes.
2. The council approved the minutes of the October, 2018 meeting.
3. Prescott announced that Goosefoot offered to fund \$2,500 of the requested \$14,620 grant for the farm stand.
4. Ed reported that as of 10/31/18 Tilth has a loss of approximately \$1,954.

There is still a disagreement in the balance sheet about dedicated funds. Ed is working with Jeanne to resolve this.

The sustaining fund is still at \$14,000, and Tilth still has 7.5 years to pay off the land. Ed suggested withdrawing the allowed percentage from the sustaining fund*. There was no vote, but also no objection to this suggestion.

[*SWT Sustaining Fund Recommendation, 2/27/2008: **(2) Withdrawals**

Each year the Council, after considering the recommendation of SWT's Finance Committee, will determine a percentage of the average of the total value of the Fund for the preceding 5 years that may be withdrawn to contribute to SWT's annual budget. In the initial years of the Fund, the Council will set a withdrawal percentage consistent with the goal of continuing capital appreciation for the Fund as a whole.]

5. Fundraising workshop. Andréa and Pete shared a summary of what they learned at the fundraising workshop on November 8. They will provide a detailed report shortly. Main takeaways:
 - Present requests as problems that we want donors to solve – donors feel good about helping to fund a solution
 - Two fundraising letters a year is not enough.
 - Thank the donor repeatedly – create a relationship
 - Expand the donor base (to retail, for example)
- Andréa suggests a fundraising committee. She will organize a meeting for the week after Thanksgiving to form the committee. Volunteers to join the committee are Pete, Ida and Edward.
6. Fundraising letter. Last year's letter can be reused (as a good starting point) because it was successful. Prescott said Tilth is already receiving some of our regular annual donations.
 7. Nominating committee. No specific updates. Five positions are open for nominations Vice President, Secretary, and three trustees who serve as chairs to the five standing committees.

8. Tilth Focus. The council decided to postpone the Nov. 25 workshop with Carol Squire to a weekend day in December. Ida suggested that we have the workshop once the new board is voted in. Since it would be too late to wait until February, we will include members who are considering board positions. Prescott will check Carol Squire's availability then send a Doodle poll to everyone to select a new date.

Prescott says we have had 13 Tilth Focus survey responses so far. The survey ends November 19. Prescott will send a reminder. Carol Squire will summarize the survey responses before the workshop.

9. Internship Update. Prescott distributed a draft of the South Whidbey Tilth Apprenticeship Program Community Food Access Assistant description. Send feedback to Prescott by November 22 (Thanksgiving Day).
10. Giving Tree. Paula is designing seed packets for the giving tree. The packets need to be on the tree by November 29.

If you have seeds, send a description to Paula at the following email address janetri9@outlook.com so that she can start preparing the packets.

There will a seed packing party on Tuesday, November 27 at 6pm at Paula's house [address withheld from website for privacy]. We will have refreshments and fun!

11. Ida will facilitate the December 20 meeting, to be held at 6 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church annex on SR 525 in Freeland. We'll meet in the Nursery.
12. The business meeting was officially adjourned so that we could celebrate and honor Angie's time with us, her generosity, and to wish her well on her new adventure.