

## **Minutes – South Whidbey Tilth Annual Meeting – January 27, 2019**

The annual membership meeting of South Whidbey Tilth met in Trinity Lutheran Church Annex.

Following the keynote address by Eric Lee-Mäder, *Pollinator Conservation for Whidbey Farmers, Gardeners, and Rural Landowners*, **President Susan Prescott** called the business meeting to order at **5:00pm**.

### **Call for Nominations**

Prescott introduced the nominees for trustee positions 3, 5, 7, 8 (which are filled in odd years), and position 2 (still open):

- Position 2: Lynae Slinden (one-year term), Vice President
- Position 3: Edward Heuneke, rerunning for position treasurer/Finance committee chair
- Position 5: Andréa Linton, rerunning for Membership, Community Relations, and Development chair
- Position 7: Anza Muenchow, Education chair
- Position 8: Leah Claire, Secretary

There were no new nominations. Prescott thanked Kirstin Clauson and Anza Muenchow who acted as the Nominating Committee.

### **Election**

Members choose to vote for the entire slate by a show of hands. The nominees above were voted in unanimously.

The following people will continue the second year of their terms:

- Position 1: Susan Prescott, President
- Position 4: Kirstin Clauson, Market committee chair
- Position 6: Ida Gianopulos, Land Stewardship committee chair

Prescott thanked all trustees and encouraged members to volunteer on the various committees, especially to help Andréa who is chairing a large committee composed of three parts, membership, community relations and development.

### **Survey results and action plan**

Prescott shared the results of the Future of Tilth survey sent around in November. There were 31 responses.

Those who responded agreed that the current South Whidbey Tilth mission statement was a good one and they agreed with this mission. Prescott read our mission statement:

*South Whidbey Tilth Association is an educational association, the purpose of which is to support and promote biologically sound and socially equitable agriculture. Our commitment is to advocate, study and teach agricultural practices consistent with stewardship of the natural world. We promote and demonstrate principles and practices of sustainable agriculture, as well as cultivate a variety of opportunities for local market gardeners and farmers.*

Ideas from the retreat held on December 8 were posted on the wall. Prescott asked members to use sticky dots to reinforce ideas they like, and to write additional comments. A handout of the survey and workshop results will be available on the South Whidbey Tilth website.

### **Meeting adjourned**

The meeting was adjourned, followed by a potluck dinner, raffle and silent auction.

*Volunteer recorder, Janet Richards*

ket. The vendor meeting is set for February 12 at 7pm. The committee agreed to

the May 3 thru October 25th proposed market dates. Tom asked for a volunteer

to fill the Market Manager position. He also asked for any ideas or suggestions for activities, music or entertainment.

### **Financial – Edward Hueneke**

Edward began by explaining why he is a part of Tilth. The Tilth Mission statement is a big part of that. The statement includes a mission of equitable, sustainable agriculture. He believes that we as a nation need an alternative food system and Tilth's existence providing education and information is very important.

Tilth's financial situation is secure. An internal audit was conducted by John Lee. He assured us that everything is functioning appropriately. The budget for Tilth is approximately \$18,500 in both expenses and revenue. Edward stated that for the first time in 5 or 6 years Tilth had more income than expenses by approximately \$4,000. The additional income came through an \$890 Garden Tour grant, an Eco-Net grant for \$852 and the sale of several donated tractors.

Membership is approximately 160 accounting for approximately \$2,500. The annual letter generates around \$3,500. There is income from the Tilth Community Garden's pea patch rental and Lesedi Farm. \$5,400 a year goes to the property loan with approximately 11 years until Tilth land will be free and clear. The assets were revalued last year bringing the net worth to \$220,624 of which \$136,000 is for the land.

### **Education – Michael Seraphinoff**

Michael spoke about the programs and workshops last year and is pulling together the 2015 workshop schedule. He is hoping to present a wild craft workshop sometime soon. The monthly film/potluck continues through the winter.

### **Membership/Communication – Marc Wilson**

Marc stated that one of the goals of Membership/Communication is to increase membership and to support the current 160 Tilth members to get more involved in Tilth and it's sustainability mission. He talked about the evening's door prizes and made sure that all those present had a ticket.

### **Nomination and Election - Prescott**

With the quorum of 16 members now present Prescott presented the slate of Council members: #3 Edward Hueneke-Treasurer, #5 Dorcas Young-Land Steward, #7 Marc Wilson- Membership/Community Relations, and #8 Michael Seraphinoff-Education. Prescott asked for nominations from the floor including a volunteer to run for the #6 Vice president position. Hearing none, a motion was made and seconded to close the slate of nominations. Prescott asked if voting preference was secret ballot, show of hands, or voice. A show of hands was taken and the slate of nominees was elected.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm

Prescott then introduced the speaker for the evening Lori Taylor. Her program "What's the Harm in Genetically Engineered Foods?" was attended by approximately 28 people.

A potluck followed the program and door prize drawings completed the evening.

Respectively submitted Jean Nelson, Secretary