Minutes
Tilth Monthly Business Meeting
March 19, 2020 6 p.m.
Meeting conducted online via Zoom

Council members present were Andréa Linton, Edward Hueneke, Lynae Slinden, Anza Muenchow, Ida Gianopulos, Janet Richards, Gary Ingram

Members present were Prescott, FRed Rouge, J.C. May, Paula Richards

Guest: Bekah Zackritz

1. Announcements: Due to Coronavirus restrictions the following meetings are affected:
   ● March 21 work party to start the pollinator hedgerow was postponed (no plants are at stake).
   ● Farmer’s Shadow will be offered via Zoom

2. Minutes were approved for the following meetings: February, 2020 business meeting, January 12 planning meeting, January 19 Annual membership meeting, with the following modifications:
   ● Some people were left off the list of those present on one of the meetings – Janet could not find this omission.
   ● Add the income from the raffle to the Annual membership meeting minutes – Done.

3. Discussion about insurance:
   ● There is a stop gap coverage for Tilth if a vendor is sued.
   ● Vendors are not covered by Tilth policy. They would need their own insurance.
   ● Tilth could create a policy for the community produce booth. Anyone selling from the community produce booth would be a volunteer of Tilth and covered.
   ● In order to allow vendors who do not necessarily want to buy insurance, we need to take the requirement for insurance out of vendor policy.

4. Bekah Zachritz attended to discuss dates for the SWAM festival. Possible dates are July 12, 26, August 9, 16. The group decided an August date was better – more likely to happen (Coronavirus) and warmer weather. August is also better for Bekah because she is involved in the Whidbey Island Fair in July. Staff for Little Big Fest can help with security and parking. Attendance by donation was discussed. Prescott and Lynae will finalize details with Bekah.

5. Paula Richards presented the results of interviews with council members regarding Tilth’s identity. Next steps are to answer questions that came up in the interviews to present a final plan to the council in April (Paula requested volunteers to help with this). Once the plan is approved, Paula will create an Identity Guide that can be used by any Tilth member when communicating about Tilth.

6. Finance report by Ed Hueneke:
• Ed sent an invitation to log into Xero to all council members so they can see the financial statements at any time.
• Ed also reported that the Power of Attorney for the bookkeeper applies only in connection with the IRS, so he signed it.
• He also handled WSMA, SOS, and the nursery license.
• The council voted to approve the budget, unanimously with one abstention (Janet because she was unaware of the budget process).

7. The Conflict of Interest form was approved unanimously with one abstention (Lynae, who could not get access to review the document). Gary will send a form around to the council that they can sign electronically.

8. The council voted unanimously to accept Leah’s resignation from the council. The council also voted for Prescott to fill her council position and act as Market Committee chair.

9. Land Stewardship:

• The Tilth Community Garden Contract 2020 was approved by email. [link]

• Discussion of Dorcas’ lease: For 2019 her lease was reduced to $225 (from $348 in 2017 and 2018). Also, Dorcas did not participate in Tilth last year and didn’t renew her membership. The council agreed to support Ida in reviewing the rental for the plot to make it consistent (on a square foot basis and considering other features) with the pricing of our other large plot. Dorcas will be offered a contract with the new amount, stipulating that she be involved at Tilth, and make sure the plot is maintained in the same way that the other contracts work.

10. Market committee report:

• The Market Manager and Vendor contracts will be sent out by email for approval.
• Prescott will call a Market Committee meeting soon.
• Because UW classes are cancelled, the farm stand is postponed until 2021. Some design work may be done online this year.

11. The next business meeting will be Thursday, April 16, 2020.

12. After a rocky start, the Zoom software worked well and allowed us to have a productive meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted March 25, 2020 by Janet Richards