

Minutes —2018 South Whidbey Tilth Annual Meeting

January 20, 2018

Trinity Lutheran Church community building in Freeland, WA

Minutes recorded by Paula Richards

Prescott presiding as current president

Introduction of the current council

We will be voting for four positions this year. Michael Seraphinoff is on the nominating committee and will present the roster.

Question is asked if we need a quorum in order to hold the election. The bylaws state that there's need to be fifteen paid members present in order to hold the election. There are fifteen, so the election can take place.

Shall we vote by ballot or by a show of hands? It is voted that we will vote for the four council seats by a show of hands.

Voting

Position 1: President

Since there is no one running for the open President seat, Prescott will continue as the interim president.

Position 2: Vice President

Fred Rouge will be continuing

Position 4, Market

Kirstin Clauson was voted in

Position 6, Land Steward

Ida Gianopulos will be continuing

Position 8

This is empty for now, as long as Prescott is interim president

FRed agreed to work with Prescott to plan the next meeting. Each council person will take a month to plan and facilitate a meeting so everyone gains experience.

Prescott thanked Judy Kaplan, retiring Market Chair, for her hard work and creative thinking about the market.

Comments

Intern announcements, we've had interns for two years now, first year was Angie and last year was Emma Geiger. We are still looking for this year's intern. We also still need more funds to pay for the intern.

Three organizations are going to share their interns — SW Tilth, South Whidbey School District Gardens and Good Cheer Food Bank

Starting on February 10, Kirsten will go to the Farmer's Market training program/classes

Financial Report

from Fred Hueneke

Quick recap, the funding for the 2017 intern was through a single generous donor.

The SW Tilth has been operating in the red

2017 operating money	<\$1038>
Include the land payment	<\$6438>
Include depreciations	<\$10,166>

Ed provided a 2016/2017 balance sheet comparison handout for fuller details

SW Tilth operates on donations, which are sometimes donated to specific projects, such as the donation we received for building a new deer fence.

SW Tilth has a balance of \$14,462.21 in the sustainability fund for emergencies.

Market Report

The market was 23 weeks this year, one less than 2016. It did about the same, financially as last year.

2017: \$20,245
2016: \$20,776

An average of 101 people come to each market.

We are sending out a Market Survey done in Survey Monkey, and are trying to get responses back by January 31.

We are seeking permissions to put sandwich boards on the highway east and west of the market turn-off to try to get more passers-by to stop. Kirstin secured permission from the landowner on the westbound route.

The opening day for this year we will have a Nettle Festival and May Pole Dance, April 29.

Membership Report

Andrea Linton

In the past, the renewal month for each person could be any of the 12 months, making membership renewal labor intensive for membership committee. Starting in 2018, the renewal month will be June for all members. Membership dues will be prorated in 2018 to accommodate the shift. There will be a notice in the newsletter.

Andrea thanked the work of her committee, Marc Wilson and Vivian Stenbridge.

Education Committee

Angie Hart

Angie prepared and handed out a written report. See attached.

Highlights include:

- Members can look forward to more classes on weekday evenings.

- There are monthly discussion groups that follow the Seattle Tilth month-by-month guide. Guides can be purchased for \$16.
- February 10 there is a fruit tree pruning class

Land Steward Report

Ida Gianopulos

Focus on community garden

We have some new farmers on the land, including David Prisbrey has a quarter-acre that had a cover crop in 2017 and will be planted this year.

- Will plan some community garden work days.
- Continuing work on the forest restoration, that made good progress last year.
- Someone asked about the trees on the site. There are Walnut trees, Garry Oaks (some of which are memorials to past members), and some hazelnuts.
- Looking into getting grants to repaint the site buildings.
- Wants to improve the look of the entry and market beds – more flowers, etc. Paula volunteered to help with this.

Prescott shared a written list of larger projects that can be done next year.

- Building of a new tool shed (Tom Grant and Pete are doing this)
- Looking for a metal cabinet
- New shower facility may be installed by Pete
- Last year we had a tractor with a mower, chain harrow and tiller, and need a tractor shed.

Meeting adjourned for the potluck and raffle drawing.