



Kitsap Food Chain

Food and Farm Policy Council

Meeting Minutes- August, 2011- **Approved**

Port Blakely Conference Room, KC Admin Building, Port Orchard, WA

Members Present: Monica Downen, Shannon Harkness, Jerry Darnall, Fran Miller, Vicky McGarrity, Marilyn Holt and Melanie Keenan

Excused Absences: Chris Plemmons, Cynthia Mora, Jean Schanen, Barbara Olson

County Staff: Eric Baker, Carrilu Thompson

Guests: Commissioner Garrido

Public Attendees: Erika Anderson

- I. **Call to Order:** Melanie called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Quorum was present at 5:15 pm.
- II. **Approval of Agenda:** Jerry moved, Monica seconded to accept the agenda. Passed unanimously.
- III. **Approval of Minutes:** July minutes were tabled and then approved later in the meeting when a quorum was present. Jerry motioned, Melanie seconded, the minutes passed unanimously.
- IV. **Old Business**
 - A. **Kitsap County Strategic Inventory and Plan**

Eric Baker reported on updates made to the plan, presented Conclusions (pages 36-40) for the council to review. All the emphasis had been placed on existing farms and farmers and the Commissioners wanted to include encouragement of new and younger farmers. The Plan will be adopted by the County Commissioners and is available @ www.kitsapfoodchain.org. This is a resource document, not regulatory, and will be continually updated, especially yearly county agricultural mapping. After approved, it will be submitted to the Washington State Conservation Commission by the end of the month and they should give us a yea or nay within a couple of weeks. They had a few issues with wording under the Wetland Mitigation section and under Agritourism and those were clarified. The Comp Plan Policies will be addressed later in the year. Melanie requested that the timing calendar for the Plan and the Comp Plan Policies be posted on the Kitsap Food Chain website. Eric will send to Carrilu to post.
- V. **Puget Sound Regional Food Policy Council Report** www.psrc.org
 - A. Commissioner Garrido reported on two subcommittees and the benchmarks of their work. The Economic Development subcommittee reported on website work and looking at how to promote and encourage green restaurants and using local foods, improving the number of access

to and viability of local food processing centers and advancing regionally scaled infrastructure, looking into processing permits by type, clearer definition of infrastructure, identifying some the issues facing the distribution side, some USDA grant opportunities, marketing to increase demand for local food products and looking at best practice models regionally/nationally for this type of marketing. The Agriculture subcommittee wanted action items from the regulatory reform and environmental issues- looking at assessments, benchmarks and farm-friendly checklists to be able to measure some the factors impacting agriculture in the region and protecting the agricultural lands. They are evaluating how to develop measures and make sure they are measuring across all 4 counties. Commissioner Garrido wants to see Economic Development elevated in the Kitsap County Agricultural Strategic Plan document as a concept because the food industry in Kitsap is more than a billion dollar industry, yet the farmers and local food providers represent less than 1% of that. Talking about economic development and what buying local means, even doubling that percentage, would be significant progress.

Charlotte talked about 'Step Up to the Plate' conference- September 9th. Jerry suggested PSRC provide regional advertising to get all farmers, especially those who don't know they're farmers, to fill out the USDA Farm survey out in 2012. This will better the reflect agriculture in our region. Shannon suggested a regional 'Buy Local' campaign. Carrilu to make sure there is a link to PSRC's web site on the Kitsap Food Chain website. As we implement the Strategic Plan, it is important to have all-inclusive language and have the best practices reflect reputable organizations, like Seattle Tilth, NRCS; also include a caveat for emerging technology and science, as there are ever-changing best practices.

VI. Committees

A. Education- no report.

B. Infrastructure- no report.

C. Land Use- met prior to the Aug. 6th Board of County Commissioners meeting and voiced questions at the public hearing that were resolved by Eric Baker.

VII. Getting to Know Our Council- Introduced new Council members Vicky McGarrity and Fran Miller.

VIII. Old Business

A. Department of Community Development Recommended Comp Policies. There was discussion with Commissioner Garrido on why the language was changed and why DCD glazed over what the KCFPC meant and intended. She will take it back to DCD for reworking and to have the Land Use Committee meet with Scott Diener prior to the next meeting;

include Agritourism in the document. Jerry moved to table this item, it was seconded by Marilyn. Passed unanimously.

- B.** Traditional Agriculture Buildings- Addressing with DCD with the code changes after the new Comp Plan is in effect.
- C.** Review of 2011 Work Plan- will be discussed at September meeting. Carrilu to send it out with the Agenda to the council members.
- D.** Committee Members- adding the new members to committees. Current members are:
 - Education- Chris, Cynthia, Monica, Shannon and Fran.
 - Infrastructure- Shannon, Jean and Marilyn
 - Land Use- Shannon, Jerry, Melanie and Marilyn
 - Sustainability- does this continue as a committee?
- E.** Scribe- Need to be assigned at next meeting.

IX. New Business-

- A.** KCFFPC participating in the Kitsap Fair- Carrilu will take the Food Chain posters and brochures to Shannon.
- B.** KCAA- not doing the Harvest Meal.

X. Upcoming Events

- A.** Forks Up for Farmers- Sept. 18th
- B.** Food Day will be October 24th and Sustainable Cinema at the Dragonfly Theatre will be presenting 'Greenhorns', a movie about young people getting into gardening on Thursday, October 27th with the Director there to answer questions about her movie.
- C.** Poulsbo Farmer's Market Dinner
- D.** Future Feast at the Futurefest sponsored by FutureWise- should group come to talk to the council?

XI. Public Attendees- Erika Anderson was introduced.

XII. Marilyn motioned to adjourn, Jerry seconded- committee adjourned at 6:54 p.m.