



SnoValley Tilth

September 24, 2018 - SnoValley Tilth Office Board Meeting Minutes, 6:45-8:30pm

Attending: Libby Reed (Interim ED), Neil Subhash (board), Petrina Fisher (board), Erin Ericson (board), Claire Foster (Secretary), Meredith Molli (Pres.), Christeena Marzolf (Director at Large), Baj Kochar (board) arriving at 7:10pm.

- 6:30** Call to Order, minutes approval from August 2018, motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously
- 6:35** Event Recap- Farm Faire: sold 235 adult tickets, slightly over the number from last year, estimating that we made about \$200. Feedback: maybe have a volunteer give info about the farm tour and SVT, rather than rely on David Haakenson for that in addition to driving the tractor. More info on tables too, rather than just at the front. Make specific signage for “keep your drink in the beer garden.”
- 6:45** Directors Organizational Report
- Member Services & Programs:
Annual survey results are tallied: generally positive feedback
Ready to implement new, tiered membership options for farmers and supporters
Bridge at Stuart Landing is complete
Potluck in Oct. will be changing location, possibly at Oxbow Farm, Depot Building in Duvall, or Tualco Grange in other months
Taylor has a weight-lifting limit, seeking helpers for her to finish the market season.
 - Advocacy
Getting started on newest Farm, Fish, Flood and Sustainable Land Strategies efforts in both King and Snohomish counties
Survey on housing needs for ag community complete, partnering with county on using that info constructively.
Farm Labor issues are an outstanding need that we hope to identify solutions for, in 2019. Possible potluck topic to start gathering a consensus of how SVT can help.
 - Organizational Strength
Continuing to build financial best practices.
Staff currently using their own personal computers for SVT work, would like to consider supplying those tools for staff in 2019.
Seeking to apply for the Specialty Crop Block Grant
- 7:25** Staffing Update
Market Manager search will start in early October.
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Several good applicants for the farm services manager position now being interviewed.

7:30 Executive Director Search

- Timeline update: goal to post the opening before the end of Oct.
- JD review, draft finished for board review: comments due by Oct. 5th
- Staff input & Communication- there will be an opportunity for staff input for interview questions and assessment standards

7:45 Updates from partners

WID: none

SVFC: still seeking a driver/unloader

KC Ag Commission: none

CCF: Mary is coming this week for the site visit, egg machine fully operational

Carnation Farms: none

SCD: started as a rep with the Snoho. farm, flood, fish efforts

Mobile slaughter unit: efforts still ongoing, talking with North Cascades Meat Producers' Co-op

SVPA: presentation next Tuesday 6:30pm at the Senior Center on climate change by a UW scientist, valley status and predictions, opportunities for resiliency planning

7:55 Organizational Review

- SVT's role as a cross-county organization: reaching to serve more folks in Snohomish valleys, making connections in that county for advocacy as well
- What is advocacy? Discussion of what it means to SVT: engaging with the other community and government organizations to further the interests of famers in our service areas. Would like to be more proactive about choosing our advocacy focus each year, rather than being as reactive as we have been in the past.
- (side note: Libby made a podcast with the workplace giving program to encourage donations to SVT), "Podcast for Good"

8:10 Kellers are making upland space available for off-season high-tunnels or other growing space, Meredith to connect Sean to this opportunity.

8:20 Dan Byers site of EFP: appraisals are ongoing, county still planning to meet with Dan on potential purchase options.

8:30 Adjourn

Next meeting: September 24, 2018 SVT Office; 6:30-8:30pm.