



Food System Committee

Wednesday February 24th, 2021

3:30-5 PM

Go To Meeting

Minutes

Members Present:

Name	Sector	Present
	Export Sales Farming	
Margaret Gerard	Local Sales Farming	X
	Fishing	
	Processing/Distribution	
Riley Sweeney	Food Access	X
Amber Noskoff	Nutrition/ Public Health	X
	Labor	
Krista Rome	Natural Resources	X
Vacant	Whatcom Food Network	

Staff: Ali Jensen, WCHD

Call to order: Riley started the meeting at 3:35

Land Acknowledgement

Determination of Quorum

Quorum

Approval of minutes

Margaret moved to approve, Krista seconded, all approved.

Public Comment

None. Margaret asked for update on applications for committee spots. Krista suggested we reach out to interviewees of former reps about vacancies.

Presentation on local sales farming and waste

Margaret shared out findings on local sales farming and waste. Some of her interviewees discussed food access and water as well. Ali shared out some information on waste.

Some highlights include:

- Consumer attitudes need to change:
 - o Good food costs more (hidden costs of cheap food).
 - o There is a difference between industrial and small scale organic.
 - o Reusable packaging is a pain and expensive.
- Barriers to reducing pre-made food waste.

- Loopholes to zoning is not good for ag industry.

Ali will update the CFA sections and share with the group. Krista reminded the group (and Ali) that she had some local sales farming info from her interviews to include in the CFA section.

Revisit values

The group discussed the difference between values and goals. Riley suggested the value statement will be part of the introduction of the food plan, which will inform the reader of the lens the Food System Committee used to create the food system plan. The group agreed to use the following definition of equity: An equitable food system is one in which healthy, culturally-appropriate foods are accessible and affordable to all.

Revisit recommendations to Council

Riley created an updated letter to Council, urging them to consider the immediate action recommendations from the summer. The group reviewed and discussed, agreeing to remove the section about fresh bucks and FINI/Food Stamps, because that is being worked on at the State level. All members agreed to sign the letter. Ali will deliver the letter soon, and arrange getting FSC on the Council agenda.

Wrap-up

Amber moved to adjourn. Riley seconded. Next meeting is Wednesday, March 24th from 3:30-5pm on Go to Meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:50pm.