

Whatcom Food Network Steering Committee Meeting

Purpose/function: Working to build common understanding and facilitate collaborative efforts toward an equitable, sustainable and healthy food system for all.

Date: 2/11/21

Time: 10:30am–12pm

Location: Virtual Zoom Mtg

Present

Facilitators: Ander & Laura

Note taker: Kerry Eastwood

Kerry Eastwood	Ander Russell
Amber Noskoff	Sean Hopps
Rhys-Thorvald Hansen	Becky Snijder van Wissenkerke (<i>present for first part of meeting</i>)
Ali Jensen	Laura Ridenour
Elma Burnham	

Red = DECISIONS

Yellow = ACTION ITEMS

Opportunities

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:		
By when	Action Item	Person(s) responsible:
2/12	Send JEDI assignments to SC for review before next meeting.	Kerry
3/10	Review (read and listen) to Duke article and Duke podcast .	Everyone

NOTES

- 1) Welcome & Get settled
- 2) Purpose, confirmation that we are prepared, [agenda](#), roles in meeting
- 3) Coordinating Team report: what's happened since we last met? *Surface any questions, note member departures, consult with SC on moderation of listserv.*
 - a) The Steering Committee discussed the removal of WFF, members of the Coordinating Team answered questions and talked about the process. Some members of SC asked for more historical details on how and why this decision was reached. Further examples of WFF violating WFN core values were provided.
 - b) Ali's door is always open and she hopes that we will collaborate closely going forward between FSC and WFN. It was necessary for the County to step out from WFN when we are taking steps to be more advocacy-oriented. County needs to be incremental and well-documented to show that decisions they follow and make are very strategic.
 - c) Becky manages ag preservation and Ag Advisory Committee for the County and she would love to continue being part of the WFN network and open to collaboration.

- d) This distance will allow us to establish WFN in a strong direction, then do high level collaboration instead of having to push the cart slower to make base-line collaboration happen.
 - e) Listserv is currently being moderated. Kerry will notify everyone on Slack if there is any action on listserv that needs to be addressed.
- 4) Defining terms: justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion - [Shared definitions](#) for us to use in operationalizing and decision making, based off of [Avarna Group definitions](#).
- a) How do we put these definitions into action/use in our work in the food system? Being explicit, recognizing as part of the network – are there words we are avoiding using? If embracing JEDI is what we want to do, what are the sticky points. Put words to the sticky parts and work through them.
 - b) Learning who we are – exploring our personal values and our SC relationship with JEDI values, and then our network’s relationship with JEDI values. Brining curiosity and courage to what is happening with ourselves – how am I incorporating [or not incorporating] these values in my work and within our network as a whole?
 - c) Break the whole thing down and rebuild it in a way that works for all of us.
 - d) Ali wants to include these values as in the work of the FSC to help us remain consistent across our collaborative work in the food system.
 - e) Individuals and groups can build multi-cultural competence – what is the group’s background. Recognize your own background and others’.
- 5) Visioning activity, part 1 - *Shared visions: what does equity look like for the Food Network?*
- a) Imagine you’ve reached your goal in creating a WFN that’s inclusive of community, responsive to community. Imagine the sense of strength and connectivity in our network. What would that look like? How would it feel? Who’s there with you? What principles and practices are in place to support that community and that strong network?
- [See slides of small group discussion notes](#).
- 6) Wrap-up and What’s next
- a) Review **[Everyone]**: **[Kerry]** will send to SC
 - i) Read Duke [briefing](#);
 - ii) Listen to Duke [podcast](#).
 - b) Next time: the **what and how**. Remind people what we got to with our visioning and prompting to continue with that lens.
 - c) Going forward, add 30 min for CT debrief after each meeting.