

## Seattle Good Food Network Monthly Meeting Notes

Date: February 18, 2010 at Capitol Hill Library

Facilitators: Kara Martin/Branden Born

Notetakers: Uriah McKinney/Kara Martin

Attendance: 40 meeting participants

### Summary\*

After reviewing the previous meetings discussions and decisions, the Vision/Mission and Technical committees each give an update. The Vision/Mission committee received feedback on a draft and will meet again to wordsmith the document regarding the SGFN's vision, description of network and membership policy. The Technical committee posed questions to the group regarding the role and intent of the committee. They will take feedback and report back the following month. The potential of holding a Community Good Food Summit in the summer was discussed. A committee was formed to bring potential ideas and recommendations to the network. Upcoming grant opportunities were highlighted. All meeting participants who signed the sign-in sheet were added to the Google group listserv.

**Next meeting:** March 18<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-6pm at the Douglas Truth Library in the Central District. Matt Maria will facilitate and Amy Wheelless is the notetaker.

\*All documents discussed can be found online at:  
<http://groups.google.com/group/seattlegoodfood>. All bullets represent comments/feedback made by meeting participants.

### Introductions

Kara goes over the agenda and Branden gives a brief intro on the history of the SGFN.

### Committee Updates

#### *Vision/Mission Committee*

Committee gives an overview of the Vision/Mission 1-pager draft

Feedback/Comments:

- like the vision but wants to revisit the mission
- use "community" as opposed to "unity" to show intention
- the word "inclusive" does not go far enough in terms of racial justice. The group needs to work on outreach to address the lack of diversity around the table.

- words "advocate/advocacy" should be included in the mission and/or who are we section
- request for balance with "inquiry" and "reflect/reflection"
- does a member differ from a meeting attendee? Needs clarification.

The committee will take this feedback and meet again to wordsmith the doc and look into creating other docs. Email on further comments- [kara@martinandsanders.com](mailto:kara@martinandsanders.com).

### *Technical Committee*

Ashley led the discussion and brought up the list of questions (uploaded to Google Group)

Discussion of Google Groups- <http://groups.google.com/group/seattlegoodfood>

Ashley asks for suggestions after reading the doc, but doesn't want specific technologies per se. Much more interested in getting strategic goals.

Questions re: tech outreach v. all outreach > Last meeting resolved that a separate outreach committee would head up non-technical outreach. How does SGFN link in with other orgs in terms of outreach/technical resources?

### **Discussion: purpose and goal of SGFN**

- Does the SGFN want to be consumer facing or organizational facing?
- Another attendee has that exact question and had hoped to find out by attending the meeting
- Suggestion: the network could be a way for organizations to build capacity
- Where is the gap? Both between consumers and orgs and between orgs and orgs.
- It seems like the primary response is to fill the gaps between orgs, with some focus on connecting individuals
- What is success?
- Hard to quantify, but to facilitate the lightbulb moments of inter-connection
- Social hour? Perhaps have several suited to specific interests (nods of approval)
- A gap is that rarely do the social/information sharing meetings result in action
- Taking the meetings around the city is a good thing and can build community (nods of approval)

### **Discussion: Community Good Food Summit**

SuJ'n leads this discussion: City of Seattle has declared 2010 Year of Urban Ag. As part of the city's efforts, there will be a Community Good Food Summit to be held in the summer. There are not a lot of monetary or staff-time resources behind this, but there is some organization support. The City's Local Food Action Plan is set to come out in spring, and the summit could use momentum from the Action Plan to build interest and action. SuJ'n asks if

SGFN would be willing to create the summit. Last meeting (January), SGFN consensus was YES!

IDT (Inter-Departmental Team) focused on food systems issues is another potential opportunity for partnership. IDT includes reps from SDOT, Parks and Rec, DPD, King County Health, Office of Econ Dev, Human Services, etc.

What would the summit look like? (comments/feedback in bullets)

- First word in the summit's name is "community"
- Not just concerned with food
- When discussing social justice, make it clear that community is built via food

What would the summit entail?

- Form a committee. The committee should recommend paths forward.
- Food shed > People will come from outside of Seattle to attend (likely)
- We need to identify the "where"
- Single location v series of community events (simultaneous?)
- Potential locations: Mara Farm, Yessler Terrace, Rainier Vista?
- Magnuson Park (Ron Harris-White has approval for 28 August 2010—not written in stone but is at the table)
- Connection to Folk Life? Last year, Folk Life brought in a lot of orgs and individuals focused on food

Committee members: Gwen Vernon, JoAnne Hedou, Amy Wheelless, Andrea Clinkscales (volunteers to chair the group), Matt Maria, Jessica Daly, Dave Hughes, Lindsey Donnellon, Stephanie Snyder, Ron Harris-White

### **Grant Opportunities:**

Is one of the purposes of this group to connect orgs with funds? What's the goal/process? To serve as a facilitator?

- To share info
- To forge points of connection for grant requirements
- Not to get funds for SGFN itself
- Doesn't the SGFN need funds to be viable?
- SGFN's immediate goals are to connect and use a volunteers so in the future there might be more opportunities
- now that the org is formed and rolling, it is "stickier" in terms of potential grant opportunities

*Grant:* Wallace Center HUFED is due March 11 for LOI. Focused on getting good food (local food access) to low income communities. Range of orgs can apply (not just non-profit). Several tiers of grant opportunities

*Grant:* WIC - WA

Connecting WIC agencies to a community group with a wide-range of project opportunities. 10 awards available. Grant is about leveraging funds from private partners to build out WIC services/projects. Be prepared to go to private partners to engage

*Grant:* EPA Region 10 grant—Due March 9. Two levels to grant up to \$150,000 to create/find community partners

*Grant:* Robert Johnson grant -Deadline next week

## **News/Updates**

- Spring Into Bed calls for volunteers - 8 May 2010—need weekly meeting organizational help.
  - Would the SGFN be interested in having a sub-committee?
  - P-Patch trust is talking to the mayor's office re: a container garden. Maybe this could happen on 8 May?
- State Legislature is about to vote (February 19) on creating a Washington Food Policy Council
  - suggests everyone call their leg. members to lobby for this
  - SGFN could write a letter of support
  - Seattle Free Schools, United Way of King County, City Orgs would not be able to vote on this (political issue)
  - Legislative hotline # 1.800.562.6000
- A request has been made for a list of individuals and orgs to be sent out. Everyone who signed the sign-in sheet will be added to the Google group.