



Present: Jim Wright, Minoo Javadi, Kay Wong, Jennifer Hall, Sue Burford, De Whalen, Deneanne Quamme, Lois Carson-Boyce **Staff:** Arzeena Hamir, Lise Batcheller, Robin Winskell

Agenda additions: Add Garden City Lands, Food Crisis in Japan, Gardens at Garrett, Transportation

Previous minutes approved

Conference debrief

Debrief Affordability map

- Lise presented the map at the food conference and invited people to add to it.
- It will be a brochure and an on-line map, which will include seasonal sources ie berries
- There is a dearth of low cost food in the #2 & Blundell area
- There will be pictures of the locations and descriptions on the back
- We will need approx 2000

- Affordability workshop - discussed ways of getting farmland cheaply; an option - consider leasing/renting or using other peoples yards
- People came from all over including Vancouver Island & Gulf Islands
- Speakers were excellent
- Seemed to be a really keen group of younger people
- 5 people from the food bank attended
- Unfortunately there wasn't a spare room to have child care
- The World Café information will be summarized
- People left with a good feeling
- We stayed under budget

Seedy Saturday

- Not as well attended; could have been blitzed more
- Some people new to gardening were there
- Were ½ as many tables
- We may want to pay for an ad in future

BC Food Systems Conference

- This is taking place in July in 100 Mile House
- It is an important networking and learning opportunity / 1st Nations is very involved
- Arzeena would like to support the attendance of some of the 1st Nations youth from RYSA
- There may be funds available through 1st Nations organizations; we could partner

Garrett Garden

- The youth garden will be starting in March
- The young mom's group is getting a lot of referrals. There is lots of support, child care, and an opportunity to take food home.
- There is concern about funding
- Would be helpful to have a collapsible table.
- ACTION: Arzeena will help with a grant application to Coast Capital
- Promotion in Arzeena's article would be appreciated
- Stir It Up is a program to help young people learn some basic cooking skills (in to it's 3rd year). Takes place Fridays 3:30-5:30

Incubator farms

- Candidates have been narrowed down to 4 people

Transportation to Terra Nova

- The bus will be starting in July and is available to seniors and youth. It will probably be running on Thursdays leaving about 10am
- It will be listed in the Leisure Guide and people will have to register so they know how many they are picking up

Monthly pot luck

- 1st Friday of the month – Ross Moster works with NOW BC – a food buying co-op
- If there is enough interest they may set up a Richmond depot

World Food Day

- The library will host the event again
- We may want to use the lecture hall to screen movies
- ACTION: Robin to do a save the date
- ACTION: Arzeena to confirm lecture hall

Local Food Guide

- Include incubator farms
- Final info to Robin end of April, to City printers mid-May
- Front photo will be choys
- ACTION: De will check on costs of translation to Chinese
- Mid-April target date for final content

Garden City Lands

- The saving of GCL was launched by the Food Security Task Force of the Richmond Poverty Response Committee
- One of the goals of saving the lands was always for food growing opportunities
- The GCL Society has been promoting that the lands stay green but not necessarily for growing food and would like to our organization to continue to support that direction
- Ways we can show that we are still committed to this:
 - Board commitment
 - Post secondary partnership
 - Share with all populations
 - Communicate visually – emotional appeal
 - Educate & inspire large # of citizens ie town hall meeting
 - Build a core action group
 - Understand what is involved in “improving” the soil
 - Need more support on Council
 - Need more lobbying of council
- March 22nd PRC is presenting to the City on the OCP and can emphasize their position on GLC at that time
- Suggestion: that we form a working group to meet to come up with a clear strategy on next steps
- Overcome objections ie organic so there would be no pesticides
- It is a perfect place for agri-business

Next meeting April 21st