



**King County**

**Water and Land Resources Division**

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**King County Agriculture Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Pike Place Market Classroom, Seattle**

<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>A</b>
Leann Krainick, Chair Pro-Tem	X		Siri Erickson-Brown	X		Leigh Newman-Bell	X	
Amy Holmes, Vice Chair Pro-Tem	X		Shelby Jors		X	Larry Pickering	X	
Roger Calhoon		X	Meredith Molli	X		Bob Vos	X	
Bruce Elliott	X		Eldon Murray	X				

*P=Present; A=Absent*

<b>County Staff Present</b>		
Patrice Barrentine, DNRP	Michael Lufkin, DNRP	Rick Reinlasoder, DNRP
Steve Evans, DNRP	Richard Martin, DNRP	Ted Sullivan, DNRP
Joan Lee, DNRP	Megan Moore, DNRP	John Taylor, DNRP

<b>Guests Present</b>			
Zack Cook, PPM	Mary Embleton, KCD	Karen Kinney, WSFMA	Nicole Novak, CSA
Chris Curtis, NFMA	Ben Franz-Knight, PPM	Alisha Kissell, PPM	Will O'Donnell, WSFMA
Kate Delavan, WSFMA	Jarvis Keller, dairy farmer	Mike Krainick, dairyman	

**Meeting Action Summary**

- **Approval of November 10<sup>th</sup> & November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Meeting Minutes**
- **Pike Place Market: Tour & Farm Programming**
- **Updates: Seattle Farmers' Markets; KCD Regional Food Grant Program**
- **Farm Fish Flood (FFF) Draft Agreement Discussion**
- **Next Meeting: February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Lake Wilderness Lodge, Maple Valley**

***Meeting Called to Order at 4:03 pm***

**Approval of Meeting Agenda**

Larry Pickering motioned to approve tonight's meeting agenda as written. Leigh Newman-Bell seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

Eldon Murray motioned to approve the November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 regular meeting minutes. Meredith Molli seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Amy Holmes motioned to approve the November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 special meeting minutes. Bob Vos seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Pike Place Market Welcome & Tour – Ben Franz-Knight, PPM**

Ben Franz-Knight, Executive Director of Pike Place Market, welcomed the Commission to PPM. He spoke briefly on several milestones for PPM's 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, centering on the "MarketFront" project,

scheduled to be completed this spring, which includes new spaces for arts/crafts, farmers, business, low-income senior housing, and parking. The official grand opening for this phase is scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017, with Seattle's mayor to be present. He also spoke on recent Market strategic initiatives, prompted by a realization that the Market needs to do more to support its farmers.

Alisha Kissell of PPM and Leigh Newman-Bell then conducted all present on an hour-long walking tour of the Market, focusing on components relating to agriculture/farming.

### **Pike Place Market Farm Programming – Leigh Newman-Bell; Alisha Kissell, PPM**

Leigh Newman-Bell and Alisha Kissell overviewed a presentation on the farm-related programs at PPM. These include increasingly successful summer “express markets” at several high-traffic Seattle locations; the “Farm Development Program,” a support program for Market farmers; and the “Farm to Go” and “Food Access Program,” to support farmers and make farmers’ produce accessible to a broader local public.

### **Seattle Farmers Market Update – Chris Curtis, NFMA**

Chris Curtis of Neighborhood Farmers’ Market Alliance (NFMA) updated the Commission on the ongoing issue of increased farmers’ market fees from Seattle/King County Health Department (KCHD). She said KCHD has eased Certified Booth Operators (CBO) requirements, that only primary business owners would need a CBO permit. Onsite cooking demo permits are also now bundled into the regular fee. However, total fees still run about \$1,400 a season for farmers to participate in Seattle markets, which is costly for many smaller markets. No progress was made in changing fees for 2017, but Ms. Curtis stressed that KCHD has met with NFMA several times and is listening to them, that much of the rigidity in KCHD’s position stems from their being a “fee-for-service” entity.

She also reported Seattle neighborhood markets are doing well, with 112 farmers, and additional vendors, regularly selling at them, and over \$10 million in revenue went to farmers and food vendors from these markets in 2016. There was a more than 10% increase in shoppers in 2016, to over 600,000. She said 8,100 acres out of a total 9,000+ statewide are in production from their participating farmers, 70% of those in the Puget Sound region, and 35 farms in King County. She noted over 20 tons of fresh produce were donated by markets to local food banks in 2015. She recognized the importance of the many volunteers supporting area markets, and the role of farmers’ markets in local community-building. Patrice Barrentine added that Ms. Curtis was recognized by Seattle’s mayor this year for her contributions to the city.

### **KCD Regional Food Grant Program Update – Mary Embleton, KCD**

Mary Embleton of King Conservation District (KCD) gave an update on their Regional Food Grant Program. The 2015-2016 program funded 30 projects, at a total of \$1.8 million. She said a program overhaul in 2016 included increased community outreach. She solicited feedback for improving the program, noting small in-person group meetings were best for this; the feedback deadline is the first week of February.

### **BREAK**

### **Farm Fish Flood (FFF) Discussion – Patrice Barrentine; Commissioners**

Patrice Barrentine reported that the suggested Comprehensive Plan language changes from prior Commission meetings, addressing the intended geographic scope of FFF, were submitted to the King County Council (KCC) as an amendment by Councilmember Kathy Lambert, and this had passed with the rest of the Comp Plan.

Ms. Barrentine referred Commissioners to minutes from the Commission’s January 10<sup>th</sup> subcommittee meeting, which addressed recommended edits to grammar and language in the FFF Advisory Committee’s report. The revisions have multiple goals: to remove perceived bias towards any specific FFF caucus; inclusion of language to determine and enforce progress of “bundled” implementation for caucus action item priorities; and address composition of the FFF 2.0 committee and task forces, including balanced representation of the participating caucuses. She noted that DNRP Director Christie True has agreed to meet with Bob Vos and the board of Citizens’ Alliance for Property Rights (CAPR) to discuss strengthening CAPR’s relationship with the County and role in FFF 2.0. She also noted addition of a bit of language to

address stipend funding for FFF 2.0 participants who are not compensated for their FFF work as part of regular employment, or are part of organizations that do not have sufficient funding to otherwise participate. She concluded by stating that the action sought from the Commission tonight was a vote to formalize these subcommittee recommendations.

Mr. Vos said while progress was made at the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, he was not ready to vote. He listed two issues he wished addressed first: a meeting between agriculture and fish interests to determine agreement on the Commission's proposed language edits; and fair FFF 2.0 committee representation. Ms. Barrentine replied this vote was intended to support the subcommittee's recommendations, not a final vote on the FFF report. Several others concurred on the importance of a formal vote tonight.

Discussion followed on language addressing composition of the FFF 2.0 caucuses. John Taylor said the maximum committee size would be 15 people, five for each caucus, with additional possible for the supporting task forces, and non-voting "ex officio" committee members. He added that the County can schedule meetings with the other caucuses to address the Commission's suggested edits to the FFF report. He noted the principle burden of the editorial changes could also fall to the County, which would allow the Commission more room to address "bundling" of caucus objectives and the makeup of the 2.0 committee.

Mr. Vos motioned the Commission support its subcommittee's amended draft document as of January 12<sup>th</sup>, for forwarding to a joint meeting of farm and fish caucuses for final approval. Meredith Molli seconded this motion, which was approved unanimously.

### **Agriculture Commission Strategic Planning 2017**

This item was tabled to address at next meeting due to lack of time.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Updates**

- **Local Food Initiative:** Mike Lufkin distributed a handout with 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2016 updates for the LFI.
- **Commission Details**
  - Amy Holmes reminded Commissioners to complete and return their Financial Disclosure forms.
  - Meredith Molli suggested an agenda item for next month's meeting, to address potential inferred conflict between the County's Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) and Land Committee, and requested Ted Sullivan of DNRP return to speak on this topic.
  - John Taylor updated on the status of issues affecting several local properties: a strongly-worded County letter to NRCS on restoration project concerns affecting the Van Ness property on the Snohomish County line; continued discussion to find a path in the Snoqualmie Valley for other parties that expressed interest in the Tall Chief property; the Remlinger property outside Carnation was bought by the County with the intent to dispose of it as soon as possible; KC may also temporarily acquire a part of the Burns property to protect Seattle's water supply, with the remainder of the land acquired transitionally by the Flood Control District.
  - Siri Erickson-Brown inquired about implementing a process to ensure the Commission be able to formally weigh in on County projects prior to start of construction. Amy Holmes suggested this also be included as an agenda item for next month's meeting.
  - Patrice Barrentine made a request for Commissioners whose term was set to expire in February 2017, to consider serving an additional few months until the delayed recruiting process for new Commissioners can be completed.

***Meeting Adjourned at 7:15 pm***

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### **Next Meeting**

Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 4:00 pm  
Lake Wilderness Lodge, Maple Valley