

Attendees: Michelle Blankas, Melinda Schab, Amy Snively-Martinez, Dulce Kersting-Lark, Colette DePhelps, Amanda Snyder, Misty Amarena, Ryan Lazo (by Zoom)

Presentations

Story Telling, Oral Histories & StoryCorps

- **Latah County Historical Society**
 - Oral history collection currently available, Latah County Historical Society did oral history of people in the 1970s – how people went through the Great Depression, pioneer stories, home gardens, and a perspective on how things have changed over time
 - The Latah County Historical Society has an Oral History Collection posted on the University of Idaho website:
<https://www.lib.uidaho.edu/digital/lcoh/>
 - One possible goal would be to complement those stories collected around food and agriculture in the 1970s
- **Suggestions**
 - Using the StoryCorps app is easy to use for capturing stories
 - Can help generate a list of suggestions for capturing stories
 - Should generate the goal of what is trying to be captured for the stories, will dictate the priorities and who to interview, and what order
 - Questions that are asked – create a set of questions that are collectively agreed are important, and everyone is asked the same questions
 - Broad questions that can compare across histories
 - Can ask specific follow-up questions
 - 45 minutes – people stay fresh with a story. You can always go back and interview them again.
 - Have a broad spectrum of interviewees - including ages, genders, backgrounds
 - Accessibility to oral histories is always a challenge – finding the best way for people to access
 - Be prepared to publicize - wait until you have a sizeable collection
 - Have a press release
 - Post on the website
 - Think about who does the interviews
 - StoryCorps model is familiar people interview the people
 - Finding one or two people to take this on as their project would be ideal (with this project)

- Having the same set of people who do interviews can tie interviews together and makes better interviews. It also gives credibility to the interviews.
 - Don't do this in conjunction with other events. Set up a time to meet with them in a neutral setting, sound controlled environment.
 - It takes practice to learn how to be an effective interviewer
 - Transcriptions are key to having people use them in the future
 - Could be beneficial to have a grant to fund
 - Useful for those who are doing research (to read the transcription)
 - The app isn't always the best to share pictures and documents. If you want digital copies to share, you should ask them to share. Collecting photographs also helps to complement the oral history.
 - The hardest part is getting started. Find someone who is willing to do these stories.
 - Think about internal, collective memories – ask them what they would need to complete a coffee table book to share their collective memory
 - Remind them – what will happen when the “elders” pass away – what parts of the story will be missed and haven't been captured
 - Always tie it to the larger narrative, example: bringing back that tie to the earth, and a part of the larger system
 - Can think about how food access has changed across our region, and documenting the change in access to food (ex: rural communities and the change – like the loss of a grocery store)
 - Once we create a foundational guideline for this project, it will be easier to invite people to share a story
 - Asking people in the moment is a much more accurate way to capture motives – memories can be fuzzy
- **PCFC Food StoryCorps**
 - Started recording stories at the 2017 Food Summit
 - Saved on the Palouse-Clearwater Food StoryCorps page
 - Planned to do interviews at the farmers' markets, schools, senior centers
 - Amy has interviewed Guy and Bev Spencer of Runner Bean Ranch
 - We can also capture new stories, that are short – those new restaurants that are popping up that focus on local food
 - Can tie into society and resilience – and the environmental movement
 - Sharing people's diverse perspectives on the relationship with food
 - Capturing what is happening now and why – what is making now such a special time
 - Oral histories with seniors
 - Sociology class at WSU that is looking for an oral history project – PCFC could connect with that class as a project

- Start with capturing some of the stories – consistency and competency of the students on the project
- How did the WSU organic farm get started
- How does the WSU Organic Farm relate to the culinary program, and the dining hall with a focus on local food
- Can also follow with the Ripple Effects Mapping methodology
- Can be an initial launch for the 2019 Food Summit
- For a really small town, we have a strong movement around local food and a local food economy
 - Can be an example for others trying to build their local food systems – our regional small towns
- What is it that started the trend of a local food movement that is so strong for Moscow?
 - Why Moscow is the way it is as a unique place for this region?
 - When did this transition start to happen?
 - We do have this strong network, and why?
 - What can you identify what is significant about our region that makes it so unique
- Sarah Whitley is the WSU Sociology instructor for the course –
 - Ryan can connect Colette with Jessica and Sarah
- WSU Public History Dept. is always looking for projects, and could be another connection
- Ryan Pilgramme may also be interested in being involved
- Adam Sowards – Environmental Historian from UI History Dept.
- Placed Based Food Conference (Colette)
 - History of how we created ...
 - How do you speak in a language that researchers and academics can work with community members, speaking in a way that they can understand and share a goal
- **Next steps:**
 - Have one more meeting (many regular people are missing today)
 - Then develop a subcommittee that is driven to connect with faculty, classes, and develop our goal so that we can have students get us off the ground
 - Focus on this question on what is our goal & who is our audience
 - What are some of the key stories or sectors of stories about where we want to start
 - Also think about what is the hook to get people involved
 - Always invite multiple copies / redundant copies
 - Latah Co. Historical Society would like to be resource and willing to collaborate with us on how to make this happen

- Have an end goal like the *Legendary Locals* that is around our local food system
 - **Amy** will find out if there is a link between the phone app and the website + the login and password for the PCFC StoryCorps account
- **Ripple Mapping**
 - Following stories and the bigger impact
 - A place to capture stories and their bigger impact around a project
 - Positive way to understand the things you don't get from a traditional evaluation
 - X-Mind program that helps to map out / diagram what the group shares and how to build
 - Backyard Harvest had a Ripple Mapping exercise – still waiting for the report out
 - Jessica Bearman
 - Mary Jo Hamilton
 - Robin Ohlgren
 - Some other board members
 - Pullman Backpack Program
 - Marci & Greg from Deep Roots Farm
 - Ryan Lazo
 - We do have a group that has gone through a training on Ripple Effects Mapping and X-Mind

Food Blog – PCFC Local Foods, Local Flavors (www.pclocalfoodlocalflavor.org)

- **Blog Guidelines – drafted by Colette**
 - Length: 200-400 words (on average)
 - Format: Word document
 - Author bio: 1-2 sentences
 - Hyperlink regional assets: farms, unique terms, restaurants, suppliers, retailers, etc. – website or Facebook pages
 - Photos: 3-6 photos featuring ingredients, food preparation, final product; photos must be high quality
 - Provide content by email or Dropbox link to cdephelps@uidaho.edu
 - Publishing deadlines:
 - Monday noon for Wednesday posting
 - Wednesday noon for Friday posting
 - Friday noon for Sunday posting
 - **Colette** will provide a sample for those interested in blogging
- Will have a Google Calendar for people to sign up for blog postings
- Look at various programs for linking with other programs:
 - “If that then them”

New PCFC website

- Emily Black is a farmer in Athol, and she will be helping re-design our PCFC website. She has a background in marketing and social media.
- Tie into Instagram
- Brings together our tools for story telling
- We will have an in person meeting with Emily next week, on May 22nd from 1-5pm
- Anyone can join us next week for this meeting, but please RSVP to Amanda: amsnyder@uidaho.edu so we have a room with enough space

Theme for 2019 Food Summit

- We have had several regional food assessments that have been completed recently
 - One Sky One Earth (Plummer)
 - Nez Perce Tribe
 - Moscow / Latah County
 - LC Valley
 - Pullman Community Action Center
 - Gritman – community needs assessment on health and wellness + food security
- What are the stories and the connections we want to foster when moving forward?
- Palouse Tables Project
 - 2019 Food Summit can be a good follow-up on how to disseminate the information that has been collected since the 2018 Food Summit
 - Sharing who the new partners who have developed along the way
 - Invite them to the 2019 FS
 - Making it regional for Whitman and Latah
 - LC Valley
- 2040 Initiative – extend invitation to the city officials
- Direct the committee to think about the presentations in the story telling format, what difference did it make to be part of the conversation
- Re-imagining Food ... think about this phrase when we move into the place of storytelling and what is the difference when we have these conversations together. Pull out data that is current, and weave in the numbers into the meaning of the stories.
- Strong in our evaluations that people were motivated, they liked to hear about projects where they could get involved in the community to make a change
- Also the different areas of industry in food, and how it affects the entire population
- Tying to resiliency and the community
- Example: PNW and their role with donating to the local community
- Example: Homestead ministries – and helping with spice packets
- Thinking about intentional audiences and who to invite
- Possibly need to move to another location where we can fit more people
 - Possibly the Fairgrounds

- Could put up some visual format that can go around the perimeter of the room – like the Lexicon of Local Food

Upcoming PCFC Monthly Meetings

- Next meeting is **June 21st from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm in PULLMAN @ the Daily Grind coffee shop on Main Street in the meeting room (NOTE location change)**
- August Meeting: August 16th in Plummer as part of the One Sky One Earth Farmers' Market - Rapid Market Assessment (Colette will confirm the time and location)

Announcements:

- Palouse Tables Project meetings:
 - Tuesday May 22, 2018 at Armory in Pullman – 5:30-7:30pm
 - Tuesday May 29, 2019 at 1912 Center in Moscow – 5:30-7:30pm
- Moscow Tuesday Community Market will start on June 5th at the Latah County Fairgrounds. Will happen every first Tuesday of the month from June – October from 4-6 pm. Includes local food vendors, producers, craft vendors, beer garden, and children's activities. More info: <https://www.facebook.com/events/321747661687729/>
- Backyard Harvest Birthday Party – June 9th from 3-7 pm at Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute (PCEI)

