

Willits Economic Localization Steering Committee Meeting 2-7-05

Members present: Jenny Burnstad, Patrick Burnstad, Tim Gregory, George Cottrell, Brian Weller, AJ Barrett, Kevin, Spring Senerchia, Diane Smalley, Ree Slocum, Kristin Bradford, Jason Bradford, Richard Jergeson, Lanny Cotler (filming).

Meeting began at 7:05.

Agenda:

Recap meeting

Name

Visualization

Tony Orth let us know that the Democratic Committee is putting forth a Draft Resolution based on post-peak oil issues.

Question from Brian: How can we mesh with the formal government processes? Answer: Educate, invite the staff of politicians, keep them posted. Mature our process with short term & long term activities - We have a few years.

Review of Monday's meeting:

Ron: group is meshing, visioning at the end gave people a purpose

Spring: did some pre-planning before the meeting

Richard: data of consumptive lifestyle will be numbing

AJ: inventory process has been unsuccessful, meet outside of the regular meeting; 5 new members that knew alot; food group took its first big step

Ree: water group felt cohesive, trouble with research questions, energy more directed

Patrick: visioning process changed energy

Lanny: met someone who was unhappy and not trusting the process at a previous meeting, she had a shift at the last meeting and is now very happy!

Spring: meeting time too short, reports had too many details.

Jason: forgot the 3-minute rule for the final reports.

George: some division happening in the shelter group, existing housing stock, alternative builder.

Patrick: reporters should be neutral and stay within time.

Diane: I will watch the reporting more closely.

Brian:

Tension always seeks resolution. The visioning creates tension and pulls us toward our goal. The gap between now and the future is where we focus.

Building the specifics within the vision - then inventory those areas. Inchworm-style progress.

Wrap the whole center with paper and write the visions on it.

Display surfaces are needed.

We should buy some cork boards for each group that can be stored at the community center.

Spring will ask at printing express for paper.

Seek in-kind donations from businesses. Ask for specific items for practical donations.

Richard: Newsletter would be good, can mention businesses who have donated.

Tim: If the purpose is understood - community goal, language change, frame change, needs to precede a media collective.

How close are we to crystallization?

Kevin: 6 lifetimes - open-ended; conversation leads away from the point - personal stories dialog is the creation of our life together.

AJ: it's a moving image. Keep the name Willits Economic Localization...

WEL Steering Committee Meeting Minutes, continued 2-7-05

The Name

N+1 ... The obvious emerges

The vibe I feel from talking about this over the last few months is...

Create a display of what is going on within our hearts & minds.

Tim: In the spirit of a meme - shocking and confusing. Letting go of a structure that is killing you with a morality behind it.

What are the characteristics of a well?

Deep, clean, community centered, garden nearby, laundry nearby, water table, sweet, water, Mentoring of the youth.

WEL. Go WEL. Be WEL

Willits identity. Helps cohesiveness.

Governance

What is this group going to provide that we need to make decisions about?

Empowered meeting. Decisions made. That meeting can be formal. Published.

Discussion meetings and post their results and let the decisions stand if not challenged.

All different types of governance may be needed at different times, use variations of consensus.

The spirit of consensus - meeting for a common purpose.

Why are the youth not showing up?

Spring: They are not ready to call Willits home.

Jason: Message to youth: we want you to stay, what would you need to be able to stay?

Kevin: You can't hold young people. Offer an opportunity to be involved. Plant seeds at 12-14 y.o. Better interface.

George: Go to the social events.

Tim: Dolphins image - pool of sanity for a period of time.

Ron: the kids want to be involved! Go to schools and speak about this.

Ree: talk to David Hulse-Stevens.

Richard: 35th anniversary of Earth Day coming up.

Brian: We are in process like a River. Moving. Organic magnetic process.

AJ: Hiring the youth for projects. Economics is key for youth. Kids will pull parents in.

Jason: Human labor is going to be our main force. If you are physically capable, you will be in huge demand. Looking for small plots of land for professionally run farms

George: Weatherize homes in stages.

Richard: Business incubator run by City. Biomass energy. Share tool bases. Teach young people how to run machinery.

Kevin: Money is a tool that we use to draw Youth to this process.

Heinberg & Decatur talks

Richard Heinberg 2/17

Steve Decatur 2/18, 7pm

Doug Mosel is sponsoring Heinberg event.

Brian will contact him re: putting up images.

Groups could meet early and after.

The posters by Linda MacDonald put together alot of concepts. Invite artists, bring images from magazines.

Science project displays - from Mendo Lake

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Jason has proposed having tables: We want to be prepared with a mission statement and a flyer for Heinberg. Review and feedback by Friday.

AJ: Different paper, how many?

Ree: photos?

Brian: commit to being there on Thursday morning to "decorate" the place with paper.

Spring: Something that looks good.

AJ: do a follow-up.

Richard: Maybe Heinberg has visual aids or recommended activities. Talk to Claudia about WN article. Sound is a problem. We need buffers.

Jenny: he does a powerpoint presentation with a book table. Hall should be warm. Invite everybody.

Ree: keep it simple in respect.

Spring will invite Rotary Club.

Government people are invited to Brew Pub with Heinberg.

City Council announcement: Brian & Annie

High School: Environmental group, Tobias, Ken Rich, David Hulse-Stevens, peer counselors.

Announcements:

Natural Building Forum, 2/13

Tryouts for the WELLIES the cheerleading squad.

Jenny & Patrick met with the Cooperriders, Laura Hamberg. Grant process for whole County with reference to Post-Carbon.

Builders are planning a small (50) convergence in May to plan a bigger one for next year. Looking for projects. Next meeting 2/11.

Berkeley Community Center will post our events on their calendar.

Meeting closed at 9:17.

plant_veggies@yahoo.com-Kevin

Minutes by Diane Smalley