

Willits Economic Localization Steering Committee Meeting 5-23-05

Members present: Mair Alight (facilitator), Brian Weller, Indigo Donaldson, Diane Smalley, Larry Desmond, Lanny Cotler, Tim Gregory, Jason Bradford, David Drell, Kristin Bradford.

Guests: Milana, Ananda

Meeting began at 7:15.

Assign timekeeper, stack keeper

Agenda: (actual order numbers in parentheses, below)

Consensus review, Mair

Willits Fest---which groups are participating? Kristin

Considering Donna D'Terra as an upcoming speaker--medicine chest garden project, Kristin

Outreach materials from Media group--short film and brochure. Budget and other considerations. Jason

The need for everyone to consider what and how they want to share with others what WELL is doing; i.e., everyone needs to have some input into WELL's public relations -- not just the fledgling Media Committee. 20 minutes. Lanny

PROPOSAL~~~On June 20th, the Spiral dance would like to start during a 7:45 break from the speaker (Q&A session?), in the community center, we will take our chairs up, and then create a different mood with drum and song, and process out to the City Park before 8, probably following some belly dancers and drummers - we will be gone for 45-60 minutes, until the drumming session starts (if it does) I and my cleanup crew will return to take down decorations afterwards. Can I have the key for closing up? The timing is OK with ralph and his speaker, who will start at 6pm, by the way....some folks will probably stay in the center for awhile after we leave. Please advise WELL'd position on this matter. I think the potluck is not going to work out due to timing and all...but we should still do it sometime! Also, there will be "altars" to the 4 directions in the corners - think of them as opportunities for displaying pictures of energy derived from solar (fire), wind (air), hydro (water) and earth (biodiesel? food group?) ...would WELL like to make something to share in this way?

thanks,

Annie

1. Milana ; Auroville 1968 barren desert, Now: 3M trees, 40 diff countries. governance, civil society create an entirely new society: human unity. A complete town of 50,000. Complete sustainability.
Lalit Bati head of town planning and integral development. Available May 26 - 30. Will need transp back to the bay area, meals, lodging,
Lanny has a friend that is driving from Seattle to Willits on the 28th.
Mair is driving to the bay area on the 31st.
Donations at the meeting.
Milani read Bhati's email. He can talk about whatever we want. He will interact with one of us.
Need to decide by tonight.
Brian: will this help us in our momentum.
auroville.org
Lanny offered to call him. Discuss possibilities with Bhati
David: Maybe he could meet with a small group.
(Went over time)

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Proposal: If the meeting is fixed and there is no \$ cost we could give him 15 to 20 minutes to say hello. No support.

Very generous offer. It deserves a whole evening and time to plan for it. Unfortunate.

Proposal: contact him, appreciation and set up on-going connection.

Jason: wants us to be flexible. frustrating because we don't know what we might be missing.

2. Consensus review

80% is a majority rule. 100% is a partnership model.

Brian: Mendocino commons came up with a system where it was 80% but with those with disagreements concerns, more discussion was needed, adds 50% of the time, take a vote. If there are still some concerns the item was noted and a statement was made and published. Put on agenda for next meeting/tabled.

Diane: When the item is a philosophical item, strive for 100% consensus. Needs trained facilitation.

Tim: If there is a place where a person is entrenched. Consensus works in groups the size of 10-15. Larger groups used a modified consensus. When there are substantial concerns - revisit. Form a caucus - those people will discuss the item and come back and report.

The spirit of consensus helps.

There can be a tyranny of the minority as there is a tyranny of the majority.

David: Proposal: We continue with 80% but listen for trouble and revisit it.

Lanny: Boredom is the dissolver.

DIANE: PLAN OUR COMMUNICATION BEFORE IT BREAKS DOWN.

3. Jason: press packet will cost money to do professionally. Discuss contents and cost? This will be a fundraiser.

David met Terry Taminen, CalEPA, Schwarzenegger aide who is all on the off oil thang. He's in touch with the bigwigs. David plans a meeting with him. To understand what the state is doing. which is incongruent with what he was saying. Especially to address the Willits Bypass and its tragic nature.

And to introduce him to WELL with the example of poor transportation planning in the oil age.

Brainstormed elements

Historical timeline, Video collage, Proposals of what our aims are.

Lanny: a PR packet, to support David, as well as for other fundraising purposes SC needs to set aside an hour plus to decide how we want to connect with the community.

Brian: The time is now. Proposal: This small group puts together a packet that David can use.

Secondly, The SC meets to add to the content.

Indigo: modify - **add a deadline to the SC approval.**

Larry feels out of the loop. Modify: **Email us with the presentation for approval.**

Then there is a question of trusting the small group and the cost of it.

100% approval.

4. Larry has a powerpoint presentation and a two-hour water development workshop. Taking the temperature to to it in the month of July as a Monday night big group meeting. Full support.

One of our own will move us forward. Free!

5. Wellness group is planning to have a booth at the WillitsFest. Are any other groups planning to have a booth? Should we coordinate.

Food: Mary Zellachild.

Media: can show their video

Go to your groups and drum up interest in this

Proposal: Let the larger group know that there is a large area for us. Artful, hands on, visual, interactive.

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6. Donna d'Terra

A leader in the herbal field. We would like to have her as a speaker for the large group. Interest? May be seen as too alternative not be acceptable to the whole community. More framing in the localization of medicine. Possibly integrate with the hospital garden... Maybe each one of the subgroups would like to have speakers. Hospital - can't make medicines there for legal reasons.

7. Annie's proposal about following the 6/20 meeting talk with Ralph P's friend.

Proposal: Begin the meeting at 6:30, let him know that there is an event at 8 so he can wrap up by 7:30 and be done by 8. Spiral dance can take off from there.

Fuddy Duddy

Metaphoric ability to talk about the grid and then the lay lines.

8. June & July schedule.

5/30 Regular study group

6/6 SC

6/13 Regular study group

6/20 Speaker

6/27 SC

7/4 off

7/11 Regular study group

7/18 SC

7/25 Larry Desmond

Announcements

We should consider applying to present at this event - would be a great opportunity to summarize our progress, get real about our mistakes as well as our successes in order to send others on the path behind us...please have someone fill this application out as I am now on the road! I am very willing to be one of the presenters.

-AW

WANTED- Progressive Female from the 3rd District...for Steering Committee of the "Mendocino Commons" - Brian will inform you all of the vision of this group and the meeting today in Ukiah, some local powerhouse people involved! Els Cooperrider, Dan Hamburg, could be an important group to have the pulse of....any Willits females interested in getting involved in the county-wide picture? How about it, Indigo? Pass it on to the bigger group, there just may be someone who is not toooo busy to say yes....contact Joe Wildman at mendocino_commons@hotmail.com

-Annie

. Announcements

. Determine next meeting's facilitator and food preparers. 5 min.

Treasurer's report:

9. Determine next meeting's facilitator: Indigo
and food preparers salad - Jason, Mair - bread, main dish - Indigo - soup

Meeting closed at 9:19.

Minutes by Diane Smalley