

**Steering Committee Meeting Minutes  
Willits Economic Localization  
September 4, 2006**

**Attendees:** Jason Bradford, Marc Grail, Suzie Gruber, Spring Senerchia, Liam UiCearbhaill, Freddie Long

**Facilitator:** Liam UiCearbhaill

**October/November Schedule Review - Suzie**

The proposed schedule was reviewed. All was approved with the exception of the proposal by Brian Weller to bring David Korten to town for a speaker event. Brian proposed that we cover David's expenses and split the door proceeds with him. Discussion ensued. Liam & Jason proposed that we ask local BALLE members (Willits Chamber of Commerce) to co-sponsor the event with WELL to cover David's costs. WELL will produce the event and split the proceeds with David Korten. BALLE would receive no part of the proceeds. If BALLE does not agree to co-sponsor the event, then we will pay David's expenses from the proceeds and then split the remainder with David. He also proposed that we counsel David to focus on BALLE-related issues, community enrollment, etc. The proposal passed. Spring & Suzie will follow up with David Korten and BALLE.

**Plenary Meetings in October or November – Suzie**

Should we have plenary meetings in October and November? Discussion ensued. Everyone agreed we should have a plenary meeting in November and a quarterly meeting in December during which the Coordinating Committee elections will occur. The November plenary meeting will be November 27<sup>th</sup> during which time project review will occur. There will be no plenary in October, but there will be volunteer sign-up sheets at each WELL event.

**Proposed WELL Brochure – Jason**

Jason presented a draft and described the purpose behind producing a brochure. Spring has reviewed it. The committee unanimously approved the concept of the brochure and agreed to let Spring, Suzie and Jason finalize it and implement its use. We will print 1000 copies to start.

**Spring's Maternity Leave – Jason**

Jason reported on hiring someone to cover Spring's maternity leave. The job was posted. Four applications were received. Suzie Gruber was hired to cover the leave.

**Membership Committee – Freddie**

Freddie reported on the process of how membership enrollment will work. She described perceived obstacles with the Willits Chamber of Commerce and BALLE. Both the Willits Chamber and the WELL Membership Committee independently agreed to put their shop local discount programs on hold until the organizations meet to decide how to move forward. The Membership committee also decided to drop the family membership in order to simplify the process.

Freddie noted that Brian proposed that each subscribing member be asked to recruit five additional members. Each person will be given an envelope containing all of the forms necessary to sign five people up.

Freddie noted that any amount given above the \$10 membership cost is tax deductible.

A discussion ensued about member numbers, recruiting packets, and membership cards. Liam proposed that we print the membership sign-up sheets on colored paper rather than using colored ink in order to save money. The committee agreed unanimously. We will print 500 copies of the sign-up sheets to start and use a consecutive member number scheme.

Suzie raised the issue of by what mechanism we can eliminate the family membership. Liam proposed that we convene everyone prior to membership enrollment on September 11<sup>th</sup> and ask them for approval to eliminate the family membership. Three people agreed, two were neutral; and one disagreed. More discussion ensued. A new vote was taken and the original proposal was passed unanimously.

Spring proposed that additionally when we first convene we will vote on which voting process we will use. The committee agreed unanimously.

The committee agreed that project team sign-ups will be available on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Suzie, Liam, & Spring will meet to plan the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Liam noted that we need to pick a facilitator and proposed that it be someone who is not running for the Coordinating Committee.

### **Crossover Meeting – Liam**

Spring described her reasons for having a cross-over meeting. Jason proposed that we schedule the first coordinating committee for September 18<sup>th</sup> at 7PM and that we invite the old steering committee members that are not on the new committee and have the cross-over as the first agenda item. This proposal passed unanimously. Suzie agreed to write up a document detailing outstanding issues to be distribute to the new committee prior to the first meeting. Jason will facilitate.

More discussion ensued and it was decided that at the end of the meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup>, the new Coordinating Committee meetings will get together to decide when the first meeting is – those members of the Steering Committee able to attend the date chosen, will, as noted above, be the first agenda item.

Spring will begin a document to be added to in regards to what this committee has learned and would like to pass on to the incoming committee.

Suzie has begun an outstanding issues document, detailing issues for the CC to take up promptly.

### **Governance Document Review – Marc**

Voting Procedures – Marc described proposed new voting procedure in which each voter can vote for as many candidates as they want including all twelve. Each candidate must receive at least 10% of the total votes in order to be elected. Discussion ensued.

Marc proposed that when we convene we ask for a change in voting procedure such that Working Members are asked to vote for no more than 10 people and that the top ten vote receivers will be elected if they have received at least 10 percent of the vote. The committee agreed unanimously.

Additional minor changes to the Governance document were presented and approved unanimously. Suzie proposed that the Steering Committee recommend the Governance Document as modified be approved by the plenary on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Honoring of Spring**

Marc proposed that we honor Spring for all of her hard work. Liam proposed we give her the Water award.