

Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes
Willits Economic Localization
October 5, 2006

Attendees: Jason Bradford, Marc Grail, Ron Greystar, Suzie Gruber, Freddie Long, Rachel Olivieri, Ron Orenstein, Liam UiCearbhaill, Brian Weller, Mary Zellachild

Facilitator: Marc Grail

Check-in – Marc Grail

We went around the room and each person checked in.

Funding Ambiguity – Suzie Gruber

Suzie provided a status on funding by Wallace Global Fund. We have a verbal agreement that they will be giving us a grant, but we do not know when we will receive it. Brian Weller stated that he met with the Wallaces and discussed WELL. He will contact them and explore whether they can give us an advance. Post Carbon Institute funding ended in August. The WGF will be performing a WELL site visit on October 12. Ron O. agreed to provide the City of Willits perspective.

Expenditure Authority – Suzie Gruber

Jason indicated that the Steering Committee agreed that the office manager can spend up to \$100 without committee approval. Suzie proposed that we keep this policy and that project teams have no authority to spend money without a budget approved by the Coordinating Committee. Brian proposed that the WELL Administrative Team (Suzie Gruber, Liam UiCearbhaill & Spring Senerchia) be authorized to approve expenditures up to \$250 for the next two months. The proposal passed unanimously.

Suzie raised the issue of project team spending approval. Discussion ensued. Jason proposed that any project wanting to receive WELL financial support must make a proposal to the Coordinating Committee with a budget. The proposal passed unanimously.

P&L Publication – Freddie Long

Freddie presented the Profit & Loss (P&L) from inception through 8/31/06 that will be made available for publications. Freddie proposed that the REDI 15% expenditure be shown as an expense rather than a negative income amount (as they appear on the REDI accounting records). The proposal passed unanimously. Marc asked how this P&L should be disseminated. Discussion ensued. Brian proposed that we note in the next newsletter that the P&L will be available to anyone who wants it and that it will be presented at the next WELL Quarterly Meeting. More discussion ensued. Jason revised the proposal such that the note in the newsletter includes a brief statement of the WELL financial picture. The proposal passed unanimously.

CalTrans Grant Opportunity – Jason Bradford

Jason described a grant opportunity in which Quinton Roland, a grant writer approached REDI and offered to help WELL & REDI apply for a CalTrans grant in which the granting agent would be the City of Willits. Jason described the grant as a planning grant that would fund a series of workshops exploring how to create sustainability in Willits. Quinton had convinced Jason, Phil Jergenson and Alan Falleri to proceed with the grant application. Alan Falleri met with Ross Walker and they decided the City of Willits did not have the resources to apply for and take on this program. Jason described the need for WELL to educate the City of Willits on how and the level to which WELL can support the City of Willits in these areas. Ron Orenstein stated that the City of Willits is behind the activities of WELL and REDI. He additionally provided a snapshot of the challenges currently facing the City of Willits. Ron Orenstein proposed that WELL have a strategy meeting. Marc proposed that Ron Orenstein, Suzie, Jason, and Brian meet to develop a strategy for applying for grants. The proposal passed unanimously.

City Repair Speaker Event – Suzie Gruber

Suzie stated that the organizer for City Repair contacted WELL about speaking in November. The Coordinating Committee agreed that the only possible date is 11/20 because David Korten is coming on 11/13.

Speaker Event Quality – Suzie Gruber

Suzie reflected that many people who attended the WELL event on 9/25 left before the event was over. She asked the Coordinating Committee to consider the standard of event that it wants to present for discussion at a future meeting.

Water Issues – Ron Orenstein

Ron proposed that WELL could help the City of Willits with the current water issue by developing conservation methods and educating our community about these methods. Liam stated that there is one WELL member on the water project team. Ron Orenstein agreed to join the water project team. Marc asked if WELL could get some funding from the City of Willits for developing this plan. Ron Orenstein proposed that the water project team meet to decide how to move forward. Discussion ensued about water strategy. Suzie stated that the Coordinating Committee needs to take separate time to discuss strategy. Brian stated that WELL must discuss strategies for how it can support the Willits community as changes occur. Liam asked for additional people to sign up for the water project team. Mary, Ron Greystar, Brian & Rachel have also agreed to be on the water project team.

Halloween Harvest Dance Planning – Suzie Gruber

Suzie gave an update on the Halloween Harvest Planning and asked each person on the Coordinating Committee to volunteer in some way.

Van Hotel Renovation Project - Liam UiCearbail

Liam presented a vision for how the Van Hotel might be purchased and renovated. Liam asked WELL for an endorsement of the concept. Marc initiated a sounding from the committee members on the subject. More discussion ensued. Brian proposed that WELL

endorse Liam moving forward to approach other city organizations to see how to move this project forward. The proposal passed.

Political Endorsements – Suzie Gruber

Suzie read the paragraph in the REDI bylaws that clearly states that REDI and therefore WELL cannot endorse or influence any political campaigns.

Meeting Schedule

The next Coordinating Committee will be October 16, 2006 at 6PM. Brian Weller will facilitate.

Check-out

Marc initiated a check out.