



Willits Economic Localization

Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes March 6, 2007

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

Facilitator: Freddie Long

Check In

Additions to the Agenda

Subcommittee Reports

CC Meeting Schedule – Suzie

The committee decided to have its next meeting on March 27, 2007 at 6PM.

Office Space Search – Suzie

Suzie reported that she looked at other office space available in Willits and determined that our offer of \$400/month to REDI is a reasonable offer. Discussion ensued. Freddie stated that WELL is still awaiting a response from REDI.

Request for Funds for Food Event – Mary

Mary gave an overview of the food event and requested \$150 to contribute to the food for lunch for the event. Suzie asked if participants would be asked to contribute to the event. Discussion ensued. Liam proposed that WELL allocate the funds and that we ask participants to contribute \$3 towards lunch to offset the cost. The proposal passed unanimously.

March 19th Meeting Proposal – Rachel & Freddie

Freddie reviewed the proposed schedule for the March 19 meeting. Freddie stated that she would like this framework to become a template for future plenaries with the intention of creating more interaction among the members. She then reviewed the proposal the CC will present to the plenary for a vote describing the mitigation of liability through WELL becoming a program of Earthmind rather than a fiscal sponsee. Liam suggested that the Earthmind board publicly agree to the proposal on March 19th if the proposal passes.

Freddie noted that Michael Hackleman wants to give a presentation on the origins of Earthmind. Everyone supported that idea.

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Freddie asked for \$250 for the food & beverages for this event. Suzie expressed concern over the magnitude of the request. Rachel emphasized that it is going to take several new plenaries to improve turn-out. Discussion ensued. Liam proposed that we create an event fund to provide food & beverages for plenaries such that money from the events goes back into the fund. Brian proposed that the CC put \$250 into the fund and that Freddie & Rachel are empowered to spend less than that at the March 19th. The proposal passed unanimously.

Membership Report – Freddie

Freddie detailed efforts which will be made on March 19 to update data on what working members are actually working on. She stated that the data will be put in the database.

Election Update – Suzie

Suzie let the CC know that only one other besides Jason Bradford has committed to run for the Coordinating Committee. Liam stated that if the CC only has seven members, there should be a vote to the members allowing for seven members. Liam proposed that prior to the CC vote and the structure vote on March 19, a hand vote be held to make an emergency change to the Governance documents permitting the CC to operate with less than ten members. Liam agreed to draft the language.

Enterprise Committee Report – Reinhold

Reinhold reported that the committee has met a couple of times. He relayed that there is a lot of help available for people want to start small businesses. He indicated that a community development foundation may be developed around the Remco facility. He envisions creating a business incubator to help new entrepreneurs start businesses and to showcase products made in Willits. Freddie suggested that Reinhold present his progress at the March 19 plenary. Reinhold also brought this week's Time Magazine whose cover showcased local food. Brian proposed that we purchase thirty copies of the issue and send it to key local people.

RLNC Update - Brian

Brian stated that the contract will be returned to Brooktrails Lodge shortly. He stated that this week an e-mail will go out to potential participants providing a preliminary schedule and conference costs. He stated that he and Suzie recommend a fee of \$390 for participants staying at Brooktrails Lodge and \$250 for participants staying elsewhere. He also detailed efforts to enroll attendees from other groups in Mendocino County. Additionally, he noted that Peter Russell has been invited to give the keynote speech.

April Plenary – Freddie

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Freddie proposed that we set a date for the next plenary. Liam proposed April 2nd. Liam proposed that we ask Richard Jergenson and George Cottrell to host a transportation night detailing existing transportation ideas for Willits. Suzie asked if Rachel would be willing to create a water plenary for May. She is not sure at this point. Freddie suggested that there also be a plenary on April 30th including Ann Weller's dramatic piece. Freddie and Rachel agreed to help with the food, etc for these plenaries.

Swimming in Stormy Waters – Brian

Brian sent a document to the CC reflecting on WELL's journey and the challenge WELL is facing. He suggested that WELL promote activities of existing community organizations that are focused on areas critical to localization such as food and energy. Rachel proposed that we invite community groups to come to our plenary and present the vision of their group. Freddie asked how WELL can move from the team structure to this strategic direction. Brian indicated that he believes the strategic plan allows for this. More discussion ensued. Marc emphasized that the CC should keep an eye on the big picture at each meeting.

Earth Day in Upper Lake – Liam

Liam stated that the Pomo tribe from Upper Lake has requested that someone from WELL present at the Upper Lake event. Liam requested that Brian present at that event on April 21st. Brian agreed.

Earth Day in Willits – Liam

Liam stated that REDI's HELP program will host an Earth Day event from noon until 7PM on April 22nd. Liam proposed that WELL co-sponsor the event by providing \$100 to cover the cost of the Willits Community Center. The proposal passed unanimously.

Bumper Stickers – Freddie

Freddie requested that she and Suzie be empowered to acquire new, high quality bumper stickers. The proposal passed unanimously.

Check-Out

Next Meeting — March 27, 2007 – 6PM
Facilitator – Rachel Olivieri

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