

Coordinating Committee Notes, Nov. 8, 2008

Present: Continuing & new CC members (RJ, Annie, & Roger), and guest Marilyn Boosinger

This was an informal visioning session, discussing our goals for the coming year and what projects will further those goals. Jason proposed that '09 be the year of local food (or food security), including growing, preparing, storing, distributing, and preserving food. This idea was enthusiastically supported.

Other ideas: don't start too many new projects; partner with Grange on community kitchen; connect with other organizations; involve youth; build our own organization (more volunteers, not just members); distribute our new tri-folds.; immediate focus will be moving the office.

Misc. points: Don't call meetings "plenaries"; projects happen when people do things (& we shouldn't claim credit); re-write the mission statement to be simpler & clearer; keep accountability & transparency; review progress & direction quarterly (so meetings aren't just current business items).

Some history was discussed about past hiring processes and formalizing our structure due to the opportunity for a major grant. Things changed quickly, with both pluses (being able to give seed grants, newsletters, website, office presence) and minuses (some volunteers felt bypassed & disagreed with some of the decisions). It's acknowledged that our job is huge, we won't be perfect, and continuing communication is needed.