

## **WELL Coordinating Committee Meeting, April 15, '09 - Minutes**

Present: All CC members; guests Kimbal Dodge, Marcia Pratt, & Kathy Rippey, plus Monique.

Ann Weller facilitating; Madge taking minutes

### **1. Reports:**

1a. RJ reports on the Noyo Food Forest website (which Ann later shows us on the laptop as an attractive site, with plenty of photos & interaction); WELL is not currently listed there but should be. (RJ contact them?)

1b. Jed wants us to consider more WELL presence on Transition Town. Could submit Mary's food columns and/or Jason's articles, but no one has spare energy to put into that project yet. Ann is a member of TT and keeps informed.

1c. RJ suggests forming a grant-writing guild, bringing together various local non-profit groups to share info and prospects. He'll take the lead and report back. New member Kathy Rippey has a strong background in grants and non-profit groups and would like to participate in that.

1d. Film schedule is in newsletter. RJ notes that Pete at Main St. Music is almost ready to launch eco-films promotion.

1e. Jason reports that Kathy Hopper is writing an application for a USDA grant to hire managers for school farms throughout the County. Jason also spoke with a reporter from Le Monde about WELL.

1f. Madge is handling email & phone messages this month, will keep a log & report back. Mo will forward emails and prepare a "how to" for checking messages. The outgoing phone message should be updated. The monthly point person should prepare any needed email updates to members. (Madge will do one for calendar and issue items this week.) Ann will handle in May.

1g. Ann wants us to have a WELL table at this Sat. Earth Day event at the Muse. Jason & Roger (& Kimbal?) will help. We'll make little planters and Jason will bring appropriate seeds to plant.

1h. Ann reports that Marilyn Boosinger is handling liaison with Becky Bowlds at WHS re: food film showings.

1g. Later in the meeting, Marcia suggests outreach to Charter School (two pre-teens living with her go to the school). She'll make contact; Jane is willing to make a presentation. Students could do comm'ty service by volunteering at Brookside Farm or WISC garden.

2. **Minutes of Mar. 11** meeting are reviewed and approved.

3. **Next Meetings Schedule:** Next CC meetings will be May 6 (Roger facilitating) and May 20 (Jane facilitating), 9:30 at the office. Madge will include notice of this, and that we're seeking to fill our CC vacancy by May 20, in next email update.

4. **Election of Officers:** We unanimously elect Jane as President; Jason as Treasurer; and Madge as Secretary.

For check-signing, at minimum include Jason, Ann, and Monique; if possible, also include Jane and Madge. Mo will follow-up & get signature cards.

5. **Website:** Jason (“owner” of our new domain) needs to call to give his correct email address. Then there is the short-term fix to update info on the website. Roger suggests and the CC votes to contract with Liam for \$100 to do quick updates (with Roger or Jason help if needed). The bigger job is conceptualizing what we want the website to do (a committee of Roger, Liam and Madge), and then find volunteer(s) to do it (possibly Harry or Kathy).

As to computer files, Monique has not yet reorganized them but will try to do that as time (& need) arises.

6. **Insurance:** Ann hasn’t yet consulted with WAG about possibly combined coverage. Our annual rate is \$711, which allows us to sponsor events (such as Contra dances, Antonia’s garden classes, Wolfgang’s work) at certain venues (Commt’y Center, Art Center, Brookside Farm & the Grange). Question of sponsoring others would require them presenting relevant info & approval by CC.

7. **Office Question** (re: withholding requested by State) will be handled by Madge & Mo.

8. **Little Red Wagon Project:** Ann’s review is in newsletter – a success. It’s suggested there be more follow-up publicity (photo, Mary article, etc.), to promote next ones. We decide to schedule two more: one at the end of our May 17 general meeting (see below), and another on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Jason offers to combine the best of Ann’s and Madge’s collard info sheets into one, max. 2-page. Jason will also start seeds appropriate for those dates. Ann is willing to be point person for one more. (Someone else for June 6<sup>th</sup>?)

9. **May 17 General Meeting:** We agree to schedule this for May 17 (instead of Mem’l Day weekend). Jason suggests a panel of master gardeners (e.g. Richard Jeske, Carol Cox or John Jeavons, Antonia, Jason, Max Meyer, David Drell, the Partches), who could present & answer questions as folks eat. Ann suggests pot-making and planting seeds. Jason suggests, in addition to free plants, asking for donation (\$20?) for potted tree collards as a fundraiser.

Ideas for title of event: Spring Fling; How Does Your Garden Grow; Plant It Forward; Grow, Share & Eat! Roger will be point person (with Jane & Jason help). Need to get info/ theme to poster maker within one week. Henry (contact info?) in Ukiah will donate design & color printing of posters in return for us helping post Ukiah events (Kimbal’s willing). We can print B&W hand-out fliers here. Include Sparetime, Sanhedrin & other garden stores in postering.

10. **July 25 Farm Tour & Potluck:** We hope Mary will help organize this again (Madge will ask her, after Mary recovers from pneumonia); Kimbal, Jason, Jane also offer help. Potluck at Brookside Farm would be at the end of the day tours. (Have some coolers in the shade for drop-off of potluck items.) Have some PR ready for the May 17 meeting.

11. **Membership Committee:** Madge says it’s been on back-burner; will try to rekindle it soon. (Also will get help to mail newsletters this week.) Jane will promote volunteer help & ideas needed at next meeting.

12. **Goals & Roles:** Most projects have lead person; Madge will continue to refine & fill in any blanks in the chart.

13. **WELL Calendar for 2010:** Roger will edit and assemble, but will not create the content. He needs photos & text submitted no later than early Sept. CC should also plan our focus and major event dates for 2010 to be included.

14. **Finances:** Monique reports we have \$527 in checking and \$2,323 in savings accounts, with all April bills paid. Freddie & Madge will review financial picture for next meeting. Good news is that the newsletter now has good number of ads, but we need more general revenue coming in.