

## WELL Coordinating Committee Meeting, Oct. 14, 2009

Present: CC members Kimbal, "D", Richard H., Madge, Janice; Guests Monique, Mason, Antonia Partridge, Patti

Facilitator: Kimbal; Minutes by Madge

1. Approval of prior minutes was deferred to next meeting.
2. **Brookside Farm report:** Patti & Antonia reported on financial and farming difficulties. The main constraint is person-power; Jason used to volunteer almost full-time while using his stipend (from NCO) to pay Antonia as assistant. Now Antonia has little pay for half-time managing and no money for an assistant. NCO continues to seek grants. Mason, our new Vista volunteer in town, will help with fundraising, including direct appeal. The CC votes to authorize use of WELL's mailing list, provided it does not conflict with a mailing of our own. We can also publicize this in our newsletter. WELL may also try to help promote some monthly (or quarterly) work party days, in addition to the Tuesdays Antonia already has available.

Other ideas are suggested, such as folks donating room & board for WOOFers (workers on organic farms), having public interest groups (Lion's, Rotary, etc.) or businesses donate a farm share for use by Headstart and schools, getting coverage in TWN and Nickel & Dime. The tie to helping get good food for kids is a great appeal.

A policy question at the Farm is zero-carbon vs. labor-intensiveness. Antonia feels a tiller is needed to deal with the symphyllum problem. This is a question for the Farm advisory group to resolve.

3. **Election of Officers and CC Terms:** Richard and "D" volunteer to serve six month terms (as required by Bylaws to avoid a lopsided number of CC up for election bi-annually). The following officers were nominated and approved unanimously:

Jane McCabe – President

Richard Hincker – Treasurer

Madge Strong – Secretary

Of the current check-signers, Jason and Annie will be dropped and Richard will be added. Checks will thus require 2 signatures of the following:

Monique, Jane, Madge, and Richard

4. **Monique's report:** About \$1,200 had come in by last week from the renewal/fund appeal mailing, plus another \$200-300 this week. Some renewed who had been lapsed for a year or more; others "renewed" but were already current through 2010. The CC approved having renewals of lapsed members be counted for the current year, and treating renewals past 2010 as donations (with some acknowledgement to those donors to assure they don't object). Mo also had a few questions about names for family memberships.

The problem of past lapsed memberships should be addressed by having a better system for pursuing renewals from now on.

It's requested that we have a year-to-date financial report and a draft budget for 2010 at our next CC meeting.

4. **Harvest Dinner & Fair reports:** Discussion of this is deferred until we can have a report from Annie (in person or writing) about the dinner and Richard will talk with Erica about the fair. Meanwhile, Janice will include an article (including thank-you's) in the next newsletter.

5. **Email Update:** Madge needs to do another to correct the time for the WHAT walk. It will also include a call for volunteers for WELL table at the Hometown Celebration.

6. **Measure A question:** Keith Rutledge of REDI questioned whether WELL, as a 501c3, can endorse a ballot measure. Janice will check on this.

7. **Film Festival:** Per email from RJ, this won't be until next Spring. It's suggested we promote it to all who were on our list for RLNC (an eco-tourist event!), plus Farmers Market, etc.

8. **Hometown Celebration:** Will be Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> 2-7pm, but we agree to only table for WELL from 2-5. Kimbal will organize it; Madge will ask for volunteers in email update.

9. **Bradford Easement:** This issue may be resolved (current exchanges between Bradfords, City, etc.) If it becomes appropriate for WELL to take a formal position, we vote that this easement provides a benefit to the community and should be extended to next owner. Check with Christopher Martin or other about legally correct wording.

10. **Next Newsletter:** Janice has a list of articles for the Nov. newsletter, including: report from Harvest Fest; WELL election & brainstorm; bike path ideas; Brookside Farm; reminder about renewals; blurb about the new Chamber of Commerce community calendar; etc. Needs contact info for new CC members (also mention website). Big questions are our upcoming WELL programs (see #11 below). She'll shoot for getting it out @ Oct. 30.

11. **WELL Future Programs:** For the near future, we agree on scheduling a general meeting – 4pm potluck on Nov. 15 - to follow-up on the Oct. 4 brainstorm. This could be facilitated by Annie or Brian and take place at the Grange, if available, or at our office. The goal would be to prioritize and figure out implementation steps (and volunteers) for many of the brainstorm ideas. Janice, Kimbal, "D" and Madge (and others?) will try to propose a structure for that meeting to bring to our Nov. 11 CC meeting.

For 2010, we could consider some of these program ideas:

(Jan.)	Speakers re: local currencies
(Mar.)	Film Festival
(Apr.)	Starting Gardens (panel, workshops plus work parties?)
(May/June)	Water (& maybe Transportation) – panel (Quinton, Partches)
(July)	Farm Tour
(Sept-Oct)	Harvest Festival

(Nov.)            Brainstorm for 2011  
(??)             Speaker from Transition Towns

These would be in addition to what comes out of the brainstorm process – always have reports from projects & community announcements at meetings.

12.     **Next CC:** Set for Wedn. Nov. 11, 9:30 at the office. Janice will facilitate.

Janice also hopes some of us attend the Economics of Peace conference next week in Sonoma. She'll check with RJ. Madge offers to fund someone to attend if needed. Attendees could report back at our next meeting.

P.S. We didn't deal with having a social gathering for new & old CC. With Jane's impending move, I suggest we try scheduling that after next meeting