

WELL Coordinating Committee Minutes, Feb. 10, 2010

Facilitator: Kimbal Minutes: Madge

Present: CC members Kimbal, Richard, Janice, Madge, Jane (part-time); and guests Monique Owen, Mason Giem, and Pat Norris

1. **Presentation by Debra Kubin**, Willits Unified School Director
This was very informative, including proposals for solarizing and other capital improvements and repairs being considered, with a potential bond measure coming up.
2. **Minutes** of Jan. 13: Approved. To Do list was reviewed, with items either done, on this agenda, or on back-burner.
3. **Mar. 6 Garden Workshop** event (planned by Mason, under NCO & WAG direction). This all day event held at the Grange will be directed to new and continuing gardeners county-wide, covering permaculture, bio-intensive, composting, etc., including hands-on seeds & starts. Some CC felt we were out-of-the-loop on this event, wanting to promote it and not compete with our Mar. 21 event. (See next item.)
WELL is invited to provide lunch at reasonable cost. Using the new Grange kitchen requires training, one of which is scheduled for Feb. 18, 9:30-10:30. Dickie, Jane, Kimbal (& others to be recruited) will take the training and do the lunch on Mar. 6 as a benefit for WELL.
Mason also notes that there's a media team, with a DVD of the Mar. 6 event (& more) planned. Madge suggests Mason & Harry interact to provide some exciting new material to put on WELL website.
Another idea: One poster for all the March events.
4. **Mar. 20 "Spring Garden Blitz"**: This is a volunteer-in-local-gardens day also organized by Mason, mostly focused on WISC but maybe also Brookside gardens. It could also include hands-on learning.
5. **March 21 WELL General Meeting**: The previously anticipated agenda largely duplicates the Mar. 6 gardening workshop, so we formed a subcommittee of Kimbal, Pat, Madge & Jane to consider other options. This group met after the CC meeting and proposes we go ahead with this meeting date, focusing on reports on community activities (including gardens, time banks, downtown plans, etc.) and a "talking stick" feedback from members, in addition to the potluck, election of CC and a group song or two. Madge is willing to be facilitator unless someone else wants to.
Re: CC election, Richard, Jane & D's seats are up. Soliciting any other interested candidates should be in next newsletter.
Note that Mar. 21 morning is also the Spring WHAT walk, for which local businesses and Brookside are teaming up to provide garden start flats for participants! Perhaps all these events could solicit volunteers for another set of "Little Red Wagon" planting days (this needs leadership).
6. **Office/Misc. Issues**: Madge proposes and the CC approves allocating up to \$340 for computer improvements to create one master database that can also do email. Janice, Madge & Roger should meet to clarify our approach (e.g. buying programs &/or getting a local programmer). Recent member list updates have been problematic.
We will have another fund appeal mass mailing by end of February (draft has been circulated for review). Madge will meet with Mo on logistics & supplies; then set a date for mailing party, with helpers needed.
It's noted that our new tri-folds are in-hand. Printing was donated, and the printer has also offered to donate printing our newsletters!
Re: SustainLocal Mendocino website site listing, Jane volunteers to be contact person. Can Harry get us signed up?

Request for info from Tim Holt (Shasta Co. journalist) was referred to Jane.
Re: Insurance, Madge advised Mo to pay for the whole year (which saves quite a bit in quarterly payment charges).

7. **Newsletter:** Janice will plan next newsletter around a "March is Local Food Month" theme to feature the events noted above. She may also have an interview with Jed. Deadline is Feb. 25 - hopefully out in time to promote the Mar. 6 event. (Madge will also plan a couple email updates.)

Newsletter Ads: There are 9 or 10, including renewals and new ads, thanks to Richard!

8. **Community Development Grant:** Annie has submitted an application under WELL's auspices to support her cooking classes: scholarships & crockpots for low-income participants. (She had 15 at her first class.)

9. **Transition Town/other speakers:** Janice reports that to become an official member of TT, someone must take a 2 day training costing \$385; we're not sure we'd get that much from it. Ask RJ about possible speaker. Janice will also explore other potential speakers, such as Michael Pollan, Frances Moore Lappe, Organic Research Foundation (Santa Cruz), etc.

10. **Outreach:** Madge requests this be on next agenda, to prepare a power-point and offer presentations about WELL in the community. (Pat, Janice offer help on power-point; maybe D too?)

11. **Report from Mason:** In addition to items noted above, Mason reported that the MLK Vista work-day got rained out but they did get 20 or 25 signs prepared for the WISC & Brookside gardens. Someone is designing logos for them, and a volunteer may design a "sacred geometry" plot.

He's researched calendar ideas & is still exploring doing a 2011 "sexy gardeners" calendar as a fund-raiser for WELL.

12. **Next CC Meeting:** Mar. 10, with Jane facilitating. Richard will be out of town. Items may include:

- Future WELL programs;
- May pole at WISC;
- May Day contra dance (not necessarily WELL);
- "Red Wagon" project leadership/dates;
- Outreach (power-point, contacts, etc.);
- Health Coop & follow-up on other brain-storm ideas.