

WELL Coordinating Committee Meeting, May 12, 2010

Present: All CC members; Guests: Mason Geim, Pat Norris, Harry Maurer, Laura Roland, Ellen Drell, Bill Bruneau

Facilitator: Richard H., Minutes: Madge

1. **Eco-Tourism:** Bill Bruneau presented his idea that, similar to the way Ecology Action teaches bio-dynamics, Willits could be a “finishing school” for young people interested in localization. In addition to farmers offering internships in conjunction with our Farm Tour, WELL should offer a talk on what we’re doing. Offerings could eventually expand to include alternative energy, transportation, building, cooking courses, activities for kids, cultural events, etc. Bill has reserved a “Sustainable Willits” website.
2. **101 Bypass Alert:** Ellen Drell presented info about current status of the 101 Bypass, that there’s still a chance to have it reconsidered – at City Council and at Reg’l Water Quality Control Board. (City agreement on relinquishment is being sought prior to June 30 meeting of CTC, which decides on funding CalTrans. CC approves sending an alert to our members and also taking a position raising our concerns about the scope/impacts of the project and urging consideration of other alternatives. Madge will draft a letter to be reviewed by CC before submitting to RWQC and possibly City and Willits News.
3. **Minutes** of April 14 CC meeting are approved.
4. **Chamber of Commerce** April 21 luncheon: Jane attended, made good connections. C of C is very supportive of welcome wagon idea. We should continue to participate in C of C meetings.
5. **Database:** Madge reported that Roger has installed the new program, was waiting for advice on final steps on how to ask it to do the tasks we need. We should set up a training for Mo, Janice & Madge soon.
6. **Grants:** Laura Roland introduced herself, is enthusiastic about seeking grants for education and environment, and has found some prospects. She will call in our interest in a HUD sustainable communities planning grant and continue looking for other possibilities.
7. **Redwood Ave. Garden:** Madge reported that improvements have been completed, thanks to many volunteers. An agreement keeping the park should be on City Council agenda May 26.
8. **Brownlee Event, May 15:** WELL C.C. members will have a private potluck with Michael Brownlee on Fri. the 14th at 5:30, hosted by Annie & RJ. The public event on Sat. will be MC’d by Janice, starting with brief community announcements. Several folks volunteer to bring tea & cookies, and CC

approves up to \$50 to buy a hot water pot. Kimbal, Pat & Jane will take donations and promote WELL memberships. We printed small flyers to pass out at Farmers Market, etc.

9. **Red Wagon Project**, May 22: This should be announced on the 15th; pass around a sign-up. Dee is collecting donations, wagons, etc. Madge will put together info packets (WELL flyer, etc.).

Dee also would like to offer help for elderly gardeners.

A kids' fair happens on June 19; we should have a WELL presence.

10. **Contra Dance**, June 12: Begins at 6:30; will ask participants to bring potluck snacks. Posters are done.

11. **July 4th**: We decide not to enter the parade this year but instead have some volunteers pass out small flyers for the July 31 farm tour (& maybe wear signs). We will also have a booth at the Hometown Celebration that week.

12. **Farm Tour**, July 31: We should check with Phoenix Hospice which gardens they're doing, and convene our working group (Madge, Kimbal, Jane, Richard) to plan the event, as well as to promote classes and/or internships to publicize in and beyond Willits (as suggested in item #1).

13. **Community Yard Sale/Harvest Fest**, Sept. 19: Janice (with Jane) will work on a proposal to send to CC and then to City in June. Richard can provide a list of last year's Harvest Fest participants.

14. **WELL Health Meeting**, Oct. 17 or 24: Pat, with Bill White & others, is planning for a 2-hour program of six short presentations on self-help and resources for staying happy & healthy in stressful times. This would also be our Fall membership & election meeting, potluck beginning at 4pm. Pat or Kimbal to check availability of the Grange.

15. **Next CC meeting**, June 9: Holly will facilitate. (Bill Bruneau would like to be on the agenda again.)