

## WELL Coordinating Committee, July 25, 2011

Present: CC members Peter, Jane, Madge, Kimbal, Bill; guests Harry Maurer, Roger Wilson, Dickie Winckle, Pat Norris, Mason Giem, Cate Oliver, Mike Adams

Facilitator: Peter; Notes: Madge

There was no set agenda, but discussion was divided between business items and addressing how to meet the economic collapse that Michael Ruppert warned us about.

1. Willits AM Radio: Roger presented a proposal for WELL to help fund a volunteer-run AM radio station, as a precursor to an eventual licensed FM station. The plan is to start operation up to 40 hours/week (8-6 M-F) by end of August. Initially it would reach a 1-1/2 mile radius from the Grange HQ, with potential transmitters added later to serve South Willits and Brooktrails.

We voted to allocate \$800 for purchase of radio equipment (from last year's gift funds). Our contribution will be acknowledged. We'll also get a photo op in Willits News, and of course we should have some WELL airtime.

2. Transition Town Event, July 30: Peter described how plans are coming together: band, food, green auction, several short speeches. An approximate schedule is 4-5pm music, food and socializing; 5:00 auction and short speeches, along with written suggestions for "hot" topics; 5:45 or so, break into groups based on areas of interest, collecting ideas, contact info, and next steps (future meeting times); then reconvening for a closing circle, no later than 7:30. Annie will be providing food, but other finger-food donations are welcome! Also loan clipboards for collecting contact info at groups.

3. Bradford's Potluck Event, Aug. 5: We'll host a potluck with Jason & Kirsten, a short talk from Jason along with Q&A, Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at the Grange. Jane will find out what to call the presentation; Madge will send out PR. Grange rent will be \$100, with donations at the door.

4. Garden Tour, Aug. 27: Kimbal & Madge will continue developing plans. Marilynn is doing a poster.

Mason would like to also feature the Brooktrails Community Garden, but it wouldn't be walkable for Aug. 27. It's suggested we help promote an event there, perhaps coinciding with the BT flea market. We could have the Aug. 27 tour end at the WISC community garden, if that works with the flow.

5. Sept. 25 Event: Holly's potential speaker doesn't seem to be available. Jane proposes something following up on the recent Not-So-Simple Living Fair, with reskilling speakers, and/or emergency preparedness. Suggestions for a theme or title include "How to Build an Ark" or "What to Do when Shift Happens" or "Skills for an Uncertain Future". Discussion to continue at next CC.

It's also suggested we propose the Not-So-Simple Living Fair come to Willits next year. Cate will talk to Linda McElwey.

6. Water Harvesting Event, Oct. 5: Nate Downey, a water harvesting expert, is coming to Willits Oct. 5, and we should host an event. Follow up needed...

7. Main Topic: Brainstorm Response to "the Collapse": Food and water are the essentials of survival. Ways to address those include water harvesting, digging ponds, processing acorns, knowing about wild herbs, grain storage, reskilling. (See items #5 & 6 above.) Invest in hard assets: tools, water storage, solar, etc. Give out seed packets.

Re: grain storage, our silos at the Grange, if full, could feed the 95490 area for 10 days, but they need turn-over. (Stella is selling from the Grange; will also have 5-gallon buckets for sale.) Wheat & beans store a long time; rice up to 3 years. We want more folks to have supplies at home. Provide info about how much is needed. This could be good material for next newsletter.

We discussed the "gloom & doom" vs. more positive message: fear can paralyze but can also get people motivated. There's a need to include humor and hope; what you can do; psychological & spiritual preparation for pulling through rough times; a safe place to speak openly from the heart. (Bill recommends Club Orlov website, a better balanced approach than Michael Ruppert.) We need to keep working on outreach, get more of community on board. Remember it's the collapse of our current economic model, not the collapse of the world. Life can become better!

8. Miscellany:

- a. Gleaners donated \$1,800 (from plant sales) to Antonia for Brookside Farm!
- b. We got great coverage in TWN for Transportation Forum and July 30 TT event.
- c. Harry reports PayPal button wasn't working (& was seldom being used); now it is and also he added an option for becoming a member. Mo should be sure info and funds are received.
- d. Peter, Madge & Kimbal want to help better organize computer files!

9. Next CC Meeting: Aug. 8, 6pm, Jane will facilitate.

## TO DO LIST from 7/25/11 CoCom Meeting

### Willits AM Radio:

Mo: \$800 check to Hometown Radio  
Roger/Madge: Arrange PR with Maureen at TWN (done)

### Transition Town Event, July 30: (Done)

### Bradfords Potluck, Aug. 5:

Kimbal? Arrange for Grange, potluck logistics, entry donations  
Madge: PR

### Garden Tour, Aug. 27:

Kimbal & Madge: Continue developing plans, poster, PR

### Sept. 25 Event:

Jane: Develop program with focus on emergency preparedness  
Cate: Talk to Linda McElwey re: Not-So-Simple Living Fair in Willits

### Water Harvesting, Oct. 5:

Peter Lead on hosting Nate Downey, PR etc.

### Other:

Jennifer: Article re: grain/bean silos, food storage for next newsletter  
? Give out seed packets at WELL meetings?  
Jane/Pat: Maybe a new "heart & soul" group?  
Mo: Coordinate with PayPal account  
Peter, Madge & Kimbal: Help organize computer files

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