

## WELL CoCom Minutes of Dec. 7, 2015

Attendees: CC members Madge, Tim, and newly elected Kristin, and Laura; Paul absent; plus Kimbal and Beth.

Facilitator - Laura; Notes - Madge

1. **Minutes** of Aug. 10 and Oct. 12 are approved.
2. **Co-Com Officers:** We elected the following officers: Madge, President; Laura, Secretary; and Paul, Treasurer. We also appointed Tim to serve another term (due to Madge's oversight not including that at the Nov. 15 election). We also decided to leave check-signing cards as is for now (check-signers are Madge, Kristin, Holly & Kimbal).
3. **WEC Office Closing:** We're sad WEC is losing that high-visibility location. We'll explore if they might wish to share some use of our small space. Madge will check with NCO and WEC if it's feasible or desirable; report next meeting.
4. **Wowser-Tiny Houses Update:** No news on whether Wowser may be revived, e.g. BOS grant or other funding. Laura's sister has a property that might accommodate tiny houses; we should keep this idea open.
5. **Report on Heinberg Event:** His talk was excellent, inspiring, attended by about 50. We netted just over break-even, with \$300 to Post-Carbon, \$100 for printing; and \$50 for Grange, plus some member renewals. (Note to add a link to Heinberg's website from ours.) Good follow-up article by Damian Sebouian in the Weekly. Madge will adapt that for our newsletter.
6. **Finance & Budget:** Kristin presented year-to-date financial review, which looks very good. Membership & donation income are almost at budget; event income is higher (primarily from Jeavons & Heinberg events). Expense for data mgt is low due to Kristin's volunteering many hours; expense for insurance is higher than budget. We hope to qualify for a lower-cost insurance policy this year, with a few changes to avoid 'red flags' in our website.

It's noted that Roger Wilson has renewed our web domain on his nickel for several years, and that Marilynn Boosinger has donated several poster designs at no cost. We vote to offer both families comp memberships for 2016.

We also reviewed and adopted a proposed budget for 2016, which shows almost break-even with income (\$5,340) and expense (\$5,355). The finance & budget report will be shown & explained in the Jan-Feb. newsletter.
7. **WELL Investing:** It's noted that we had approx. \$1,600 in individual donations to the PIF fund, plus allocating \$2,000 to it from WELL funds.

*[NOTE from 11-19-12 CoCom minutes: 9. "Pay It Forward" Fund: The CC approved allocating \$2,000 from WELL funds to the Pay It Forward fund. We discussed pros & cons of converting our existing savings account to become the PIF account vs. establishing a new, separate checking account, and decided to do the latter.*

*From 1-21-13 CoCom minutes: 8. Pay It Forward Account: The account is now open, with \$2,000 transferred to it from WELL general funds, plus donations to date.]*

*Due to bank fees, we later put all funds into WELL's account, but were supposed to track separate funds through book-keeping. Apparently the \$2,000 allocation was not noted.*

From the PIF funds, \$500 was loaned in 2013 and lost to the now-defunct mushroom coop, and \$400 was recently loaned to the Brooktrails Comm'ty Garden and repaid with interest.

Discussion noted we have ample reserves, that bank funds are earning nothing, and we are operating on a small, balanced annual budget, so better to put funds to work. CoCom approved investing \$2,000 from WELL &/or PIF funds in the EDFC Direct Public Offering, to support the Mendo Wool Mill project.

8. **Membership Renewals:** The membership renewal mailing went out late Oct. 26, with good results, still trickling in. We decide next step will be a hand-written (then Xeroxed) and hand-addressed reminder in early Jan. to those not yet renewed. Madge will draft letter; Kimbal volunteers to do hand-writing.

9. **Programs for 2016:**

a. Local Investing Forum: Madge will organize another forum promoting the DPO (with John Kuhry & Matt Gilbert) on Jan. 24 at the Library.

b. 'Keeping Land for Food' Event: Tools for conserving land in ag. Tentative date Mar. 13. We might co-sponsor with the Grange, invite the Decatur's, Good Farm Fund, Fords, Doug Mosel, etc. Kimbal & Beth will be co-organizers.

c. Energy & Water-Efficient Home Tour: tentatively May or later – instead of farm tour this year. It might include Mike & Lila's, RJ & Annie's, REDI, or other. Madge will include an invitation for this in next newsletter.

10. **Jan-Feb Newsletter:** Due to holidays, deadline will be Jan. 4, publication approx. Jan. 8. Include items discussed above, plus ask members to contribute items. Kristin will follow-up on ad renewals. We do want to keep bi-monthly editions. Madge could use help on articles.

11. **Website & Facebook Updates:** Kristin is updating FB; lots of 'friends'. Need more work on updating website – hopefully Paul.

12. **Miscellany & for Next Agenda:** Other publicity & outreach opportunities. Ideas for keeping WELL fresh & increasing its significance in the community. Possibility of donating to Good Farm Fund.

13. **Next Meetings:** Tim will facilitate for Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>. Following meetings will all be 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays: Feb. 8, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9, June 13.