

## CO-COM MINUTES – Feb. 13, 2017

Present: CoCom members Tim, Madge, Laura, Paul; plus Lyn Talkovsky, Kirk, Pat Higgins, and Robin Leler  
Facilitator, Laura; Notes, Madge

1. Agenda is approved.
2. Minutes of Jan. 23 '17 are approved.
3. Proposal for Crowd Funding for Willits Hub: Pat Higgins gave some background on what Eel River Recovery Project (ERRP) does and his vision of making the Hub a center of activity including WELL, WEC, ERRP. Ideas include eco-tourism/ nature outings, watershed education, regenerative cannabis trainings and more. With help from Will Parrish, he wants to launch a crowd-funding drive from Mar. 1 to Apr. 15 to raise enough for one-year of rent. Robin Leler is enthusiastic about helping; will check with Will about crowd-funding details. WELL and WEC would still contribute for utilities. (ERRP is still working on obtaining a Phase 2 grant from State Water Board that would then also enable regular 'staff' hours at the Hub – the bureaucracy moves slowly.)  
Consensus is that this proposal would benefit all, with synergies and collaboration between the sharing groups. One concern is security (# of keys, etc.) Pat is planning - and wants WELL's help on - a series of events to promote the funding effort, including topics such as fisheries, best practices, wilderness, outdoor trips, Native American issues, etc. Later in agenda we discuss potential compatible WELL events.
4. Membership renewals: Emily Rose reported some more renewals have come in, but there are still many unrenewed. Madge is concerned we get to those soon; she will ask ER to send a list and for each CC member to choose 10 or more to follow up personally.  
Topic for future meeting: ways to share responsibilities. (Madge is feeling spread thin; not good for her or for the organization!)
5. Newsletter: Deadline will be approx. Feb. 27. Items may include all the events mentioned here plus any others submitted. We may do an email update for some of the upcoming events. Laura requests advance planning for her to take on some articles in the future.
6. Upcoming WELL event ideas: Paul reports Sarah Van Gelder cannot schedule Willits on this tour; maybe next time. The idea of a non-profit fair – or a series featuring a different non-profit each time – is still in play.  
For the March-April time period (dovetailing with other crowd-funding events and also as our WELL membership meeting), possibly invite Patricia Hickey of Resource Conservation District re: mitigation lands and/or Kate Marianchild re: oak woodlands. Madge will follow up with them; plans will be firmed up at next CoCom meeting.
7. Report on Brown Bag lunch brain-storm: The gathering (about 20) on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> was lively and inspiring (see notes sent). Paul, Thayer & Henry are helping organize for the next one, Sat. Mar. 4<sup>th</sup>, noon (just after WEC's board meets). It may include break-out groups on taking actions.

8. Report on Food Policy Council: Their event this same afternoon (Feb. 13, 2-4pm) was well-attended (about 40), with panel of speakers including Food Hub, Ukiah Co-op, Word-of-Mouth magazine, Grow Local, and Visit Mendocino, plus audience ideas about how to promote local food (e.g. Farm School, Farmers Market, new restaurants or 'pop-ups' need spaces, tie-in food with health, need web promo, new farmers need access to land, etc.) It was acknowledged how much has already been accomplished or under way, but much more still needed to grow our food economy. Kudos to NCO for their work on this!

9. Next CoCom meeting: Mar. 13<sup>th</sup>. Paul will facilitate.

Next agenda may include: Website updating; Native Plant Society and/or Mendo Wildlife Assoc. reports; summer & beyond event planning; how to better organize CoCom and volunteer participation.