

## Notes July 2005

Minutes of the Heart of the City Meeting  
July, 12, 6:00 pm at the Café Carpe

Meeting began at 6:10 pm  
Jill Kessenich and Leslie co- facilitated meeting.

Present were: Cathy Zimmerman, Bill Koehler, Lue Ehinger, Paul Hable, Beth Gehred, Kathy Kauffman, Mary Linton, Jill Kessenich , Steve Tessmer, Anders Yocom, Chuck Ogg, Jill Ottow, and Leslie LaMuro.

Jill K. started the meeting by handing out the proposed structure and asked for nominations for the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Anders Yocom was nominated as President. Chuck Ogg then suggested an alternative Steering Committee structure. Discussion ensued and although many felt the steering committee was an excellent idea, it was decided that the officer model put forth by Kitty and Jill will be currently adopted with the option to change and evolve at a later date.

The current leadership roles are as follows:

President &#8211; Anders Yocom  
Vice- President &#8211; Beth Gehred  
Co-Secretary &#8211; Jill Kessenich and Steve Tessmer  
Treasurer &#8211; Kitty Welch with Jill Ottow as alternate if Kitty is unwilling to continue in that position.

Voting on a committee structure was tabled until everyone has had an opportunity to review and comment (via the forum or e-mail). Mary Linton after counting heads at the meeting and looking at the list of the committees felt that it may be wise to shrink the structure so that we have more than two persons per committee. (A reference to low hanging fruit was made and there was a general nodding of heads, but Chuck Ogg pointed out that often attendance during summer months is light due to vacation schedules. An excellent point.)

After the leadership roles were established Leslie handed out the draft of the mission and vision/belief statements with the full understanding that this is a work in progress.

There was consensus that the suggested mission needs a bit of wordsmithing and Beth has offered to work with it along with ad hoc committee members Jill Ottow and Kitty (in absentia) and will post it on the discussion forum <http://anewamerica.net>. Leslie will post the entire working draft of the mission, vision and belief statements on the forum and will have Ann send it to the e-mail list so that others can review it and post alternate suggestions to the forum in advance of the next meeting.

It was also suggested that while the Margaret Mead quote is wonderful we might wish to find one that is more rare and unique.

The question was raised if the leadership committee meeting was open to anyone on Heart of the City and it was agreed that anyone was welcome. The first leadership committee meeting will be Tuesday, July 26, 2005 at 6:00 pm at the home of Anders Yocom- 428 E. Sherman Avenue.

A sheet was passed around garnering interest in the committees as they currently stand. Here are the interested parties:

Industry & Retail  
Beth Gehred

#### Education & Outreach

Beth Gehred  
Kathy Kauffman  
Jill Ottow  
Leslie LaMuro

#### Government Policy

Lou Ehinger(chair)?  
Steve Tessmer

#### Planning & Development

Beth Gehred  
Jill Kessenich  
Steve Tessmer  
Chuck Ogg (who suggests combining this with Government & Industry?)

#### Health & Recreation

Mary Linton

We realize that several members of Heart of the City were not in attendance and the committee structure is not set in stone but it was important to find areas of interest and talents to focus our energies into making these committees work. It was suggested that we all look at the model for committees put forth by Jill and Kitty, and see where consolidation, subtraction or addition needs to take place. We hope to come to some sort of consensus on the committees in the next few months so that we can begin to take action.

Jill and Kitty also suggested that with the committee structure that we have a speaker/program every other month (except summer) and each committee is responsible for one month's program.

The meeting was opened up to announcements and other business.

Beth reported that Kitty had contacted Margaret Burlingham and Hope Ustag(sp?) regarding rain gardens and will have a further report next meeting. Jill Kessenich and Steve Tessmer said that they currently have two rain barrels set up at their home and people are welcome to come and see how they work.

Steve Tessmer had a conversation with Carrie Chisolm and Carol Knox who are looking for people to help move the school referendum forward, if interested contact one of them or Paul Hable.

Anders reported that the sustainability super store had their second appearance at the Farmers Market the rain barrels are currently sold out with a waiting list for additional orders. Several people stopped by having seen the article in the Daily Union (Thanks Jill K.). Anders mentioned that it has become more difficult to get the rain barrels, they now want pre-orders (no more than 5 at a time) and there is a waiting period for pick up, if anyone knows of another source for rain barrels contact Anders.

Beth G., Kathy K. and Mary L. attended the Midwest Regional Renewable Energy Fair. Beth has a large number of interesting books from the fair that she is willing to loan out but you must check them out with her. All three said that it was a wonderful experience the keynote speaker was terrific and renewed their faith in grass roots efforts. There were many great workshops and they recommend attendance by other Hearts in the future.

Beth also mentioned that on a local level some there are some very exciting things happening.

The County Board of Supervisors has started a sub-committee on economic sustainability.

It was also suggested that we make a conscious effort to arrange the room to be inclusive of all in attendance. To further this we will add as an agenda item, introductions at the beginning of each meeting.

Cathy Zimmerman and Bill Koehler updated Heart on the WalMart situation in Jefferson. There is a petition being circulated to recall Dave Olsen's seat on the council because he surrendered his time at the WalMart informational meeting to public questions or discussion. 887 signatures need to be turned in within 30 days in order to force a recall election. The signatures would need verification and then the referendum would need to be posted. The thinking was that a recall would not happen until maybe November with an opportunity for re-election in January.

WalMart has also re-petitioned for the annexation of the Pinnow & Sherman properties, the 120 day window is up.

Cathy asked for additional letters to the Editor in support of Dave Olson and against signing the petition for his recall.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.  
Heartfully submitted,  
Leslie LaMuro