

Heart of the City
October 12, 2009
Agenda approved

Present: Beth Gehred, Karen Reinhardt, Kitty Welch, Anders Yocom, Ann Engelman, John Ottow, Jill Ottow, Laura Rogers, Chris Rogers, Jeremy Pinc, Cynthia Holt, Craig & Cynthia Ficenech, Greg David, Debra Gatzke, Matt Loup, Richard Miller

Laura Rogers – Truth to Power – “We, as Americans, do want to work hard...and our capacity to meet challenges is more than we will ever know”...from the television series, West Wing.

Chris Rogers won the drawing to the Wellness Retreat

Greg David –

1. October 21, DNR board is voting on the glacial heritage area...a work in progress for over 4.5 years. Need to sign up the Friday before. Would be good to have a lot of people there in support. Hunters are using this as something to fight against...it is a political contention right now.
2. Country Side Cooperative Care – referendum was lost, so county is going ahead with sale. Could take 7 months before it's sold. Two months ago, Margaret Baugh did a presentation on USDA cooperatives. Greg presented an argument to sell it as a cooperative. It's gaining momentum and interest. Big difference in management styles. Corporate model about money and profit. Cooperative has a historic significance to WI (robber baron age). Cooperatives formed, based on value and principles...as opposed to the bottom line. They are writing a plan for this. Holding a public informational meeting Monday, October 19th, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Countryside Nursing Home. Will wage an educational campaign. Doing a SWOT analysis and educational series of events weekly. They only have two months to educate, plan, strategize and implement. They have formed committees already...SWOT analysis and Core Setting team.

Committee Reports:

Beth suggested we write up reports ahead of the meeting and send them out to read before the meeting which will move things along more quickly. Jill agreed, Cynthia seconded.

Government Relations: No report

Anne: Proactive on the development of the bypass... is Bill Camplin is on top of this. It's a percentage thing. Do they count existing unused space? It's important that Heart member start going to the city's board meetings every other week.

Projects:

Laura and Cynthia have done a lot of work with the 350.org for October 24th, Carbon Awareness Emission Day. Celebrate the last Farmer's Market with it and give out something free. Hot apple cider

heated with a gasifier. Take photos of the project that day for the press release. Pinpoint what info we will hand out about 350.org. 350 is parts of something per molecule...the minimum to sustain human life. Right now we are at 390. They have PDFs to print out. (Listed on handout)

Jill: involved in Literacy event at Jones Park and found the 8 trash cans that students made were not being used. Scott L. said they use them for special events. Cynthia will dialogue with Scott about the issue. Perhaps the government committee can find a better way to work with the city to solve issues like this as they arise.

Library Driveway- Kitty...it stands nowhere at the moment. Called Tom ??? about the porous cement driveway and he emailed back. Is it a permaculture issue, a plow issue...their solution is to slant the driveway and have gravel catch the runoff.

Jill: Library was open to idea but it was the city that is uncertain.

Beth: If we give them clear comprehensive info, they may do it, but we need to get it to them now. Kitty will work with Matt Loup on putting that info together.

Ed & Outreach: Kitty...nothing to report. Cynthia will do press release stuff. Starting October 18th is the beginning of No Impact Week. 350 website has press releases too.

“Fresh”, the movie on Nov. 9th at the Fort Memorial Hospital auditorium. We need to have suggested donations. If everyone can email one or two people to let them know. It’s designed to have discussion afterwards. We will have a 6:30 meeting before the movie. It’s to let people know that we are still on the radar too. Invite the leaders via phone call or handwritten. Put out ideas of who we should specifically invite.

Old Business

Farmers Market -Reflections about what we do well and what we can do better next year. We have curd competition; perhaps look at other products to sell. Maybe have a post Farmer’s Market meeting.

1. Values: Works for outreach, helps small family farms but success hinges on Beth’s coordination of it. System has been set up – a number of different people have become involved with keeping the stand going. Wendell Berry...“I believe in small solutions to big problems.”
2. Organic pasture-based hotdog stand. – Town and Country

Heart nominations due by January.

Membership Management: Beth supplied outline based on Sustain Jefferson. Need a membership manager or committee. Beth thinks Paul Hable would be good for this since he is the Treasurer.

Town and Country could be our fiscal agent. Our tax exemption is still pending.

Cynthia – maybe the newer members can assist with the welcome letter, thank you notes and tax acknowledgement. Beth sees it as 3 people doing it. Jill will do the welcome and thank you.

Meetings

Next month November 9th at Fort Memorial Hospital Theater

No meeting in December

January 11th – Café Carpe Potluck at 6:00.

Need a system to preview media. We have a speaker, have laptops...we are getting there.

Amy was fine with the idea of the Google list serve, so we might be seeing a big change. We should keep both Info bits and have a list serve. Beth will set this up with Paul H. but not high on the list of priorities.

New Business

Bethel Horizons Retreat – a day together in the woods to talk about Heart, just chill and be in Heart. Jan, Feb, or March. Have a specific agenda for strategy. Sustain Jefferson - it worked well for them, with a real strategic planning process: values statement, SWOT analysis, stake, review mission, etc. Helped identify issues...structure of organization and what we could do to make it better. A good bonding exercise. Share the weekend and spend a morning doing a “World Café”. A matrix of various meetings in the afternoon. Can use www.surveymonkey.com to the whole membership to get an idea of how many people would be interested in coming.

Announcements

Laura - Peace Group, Monday, 26th 7 p.m. at 1303 Highland Hall in Whitewtar. “Pray the Devil Back to Hell” – documentary. Muslim and Christian women working together to end the Civil War.

Dodge and Jefferson Healthier Community Partnership, December 8th 7:30-12:30 ...maybe at Trek or Comfort Suites, Organizations coming together about wellness and prevention...a sharing and learn process.

8:32 Adjourned