

Heart of the City Meeting

March 10, 2008 – Café Carpe

Present: Kitty Welch, Robert Frost, Beth Gehred, Paul Bouboutsis, Tim Seith, Kathy Kaufman, Anders Yocom, Steve Clein, Lue Ehinger, Carol Lawrence, Richard Miller, Pat Kubisiak, Elain Johnson, Matt, Lupe, Leslie LaMuro, Karen Reinhart

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by President Kitty Welch

Approval of Minutes (Leslie/Anders)

Truth to Power: Kathy Kaufman read from William Henry Channing.

Guest Speaker – Robert Frost, Sustain Jefferson

Blog: onestraw.wordpress.com Gave some background on Sustain Jefferson – grew out of The Natural Step, have been meeting for about 1 year. Promoting TNS study groups county-wide.

Victory Garden Initiative: Outreach program encouraging Jefferson County residents to sustainably grow their food while learning to recycle resources on the site. Sustain Jefferson will deliver all components with instructions for setup for \$150.

Sustain Jefferson has a Google Group: groups.google.com – enter "Sustain Jefferson" in search field.

Robert has lived in Johnson Creek for 3 years, has been implementing techniques to convert "Suburbia" type home to a more sustainable environment. Has formed an LLC to serve as consultants: www.somedaygardens.com. Rain Barrels, Compost Bins, Rain Gardens, Native Plantings etc.

Discussion:

Kathy K: mentioned that Menards is not a good place to go for materials, they do not have a good record with respect to environmental issues.

Leslie L: Asked if there is any kind of "seed exchange" available in the area.

Richard M: Encourage planing of varieties that attract & support bees.

Beth G: Land Trust's Native Plant sale is currently going on.

Treasurer's Report: \$1,459 currently in account.

Committee Reports

Projects:

Main project is trash can decoration/conversion, working with school to do on April 26. All plots at Community Garden are filled, but they may be creating more plots, contact County Parks dept for more information.

Big Heart Award Nominations

None.

Greg Greenhalgh is donating a plaque for the traveling award to keep a record of past recipients.

Earth Day Planing

Saturday, April 26: Looking for ways to encourage attendance/participation in events. Checked into a parade, but there are lots of hoops to jump through to have on a city street, need state approval, have to pay for police overtime. Looking at using bike path as an alternative. In case of rain, Municipal Bldg is available. Sustain Dane, Rock River Coalition, other groups will be invited to participate. HOC will act as umbrella coordinating group, will create calendar of any events being put on by groups. Volunteers are needed for phone calling, etc.

Paul Bouboutisis mentioned a concert being powered by Bike Power on April 19, could this be incorporated into Earth day? Probably too short a time to put it together, maybe later in summer. Leslie, possibly utilize this for future Rhythm on the River concert?

Membership mailing: Leslie suggested doing membership drive via email rather than mail – setup PayPal to take membership fees online?

Announcements

Kitty: Rockwell school is selling flourescent bulbs as a fundraiser.

Leslie: Saw that there is a link on the HOC website "Chipin"

Robert F: Next Sustain Jefferson Mtg: May 18, 6 pm Location TBD.

Paul B: Paul Robert, one of founders of Natural Step will be speaking at the UW Distinguished Lecture series, April 15.

Leslie: Jody Williams, Nobel Prize winner will be speaking at UW Whitewater March 19

Next Steering Committee Meeting: March 24

Next General Meeting: April 14 at 7pm; Location: Police Station

Video: "The True Cost of Food"

Truth to Power: Lue

Adjournment: 8:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Steve Tesmer