

Heart of the City Meeting

April 14, 2008 – Police Station

Present: Leslie LaMuro, Kitty Welch, Steve Tesmer, Jill Kessenich, Kathy KaufmaLuen, Anders Yocom, Josie Gobel, Lue Ehinger, Richard Miller, Joan Callan, Matt Lupe, John Kleinschmid, Stella Kleinschmid, Elaine Johnson, Beth Gehred

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

Approval of Minutes (Leslie/Matt Lupe)

Truth to Power: Lue Ehinger.

Video Presentation #1: The True Cost of Food

Examines the hidden costs of mass produced food contrasted with locall grown food
(www.truecostoffood.org)

John Kleinschmid asked if there are local sources of grass fed beef. Atkinson Diet has sources of local food, also, there will be vendors at the Rock the Earth event. Sustainable times also has local sources. Kitty visited a new market in Whitewater that raises hormone and antibiotic free beef.

Leslie: Does Schroedels offer locally raised livestock?

Beth: Food at farmers market must be prepared in certified kitchens – an opportunity for someone to offer a certified kitchen for rent, classes, etc.

Kathy K: Someone spoke at garden club about raising organic beef, but the hay he was feeding the cattle was not organic.

Video Presentation #2: The Story of Stuff

(www.storyofstuff.com)

The materials economy:

Extraction -> Production -> Distribution -> Consumption -> Disposal

More hidden costs exposed, in particular the human cost experienced in third world countries due to the US consumer economy. 99% of products consumed are trashed in 6 months.

Committee Reports

Projects:

Getting ready for recycling can decorating for April 26 event. Will be displaying all of the designs that kids came up with.

Community Garden: Had first meeting at the garden on April 6 – 40 people attended. Currently one 10x20 and six 10x10 plots available.

Comprehensive Plan Update – Jill Kessenich

Last Monday in April: public presentation on the plan. Draft review distributed last month, review with comments 2 weeks ago, next draft is in the works for the upcoming public meeting.

Vandewall has been promoting progressive concepts, committee has been resistant to some of these ideas.

Jill is trying to promote mixed use, live/work development. Consultants have been advocates of this and traditional, pedestrian friendly neighborhood design.

Hospital Partnership

Two study circles came out of presentation made by Kitty and Beth. Unfortunately no one from the hospital is still participating in the study circles. Katie O'brien has left her position at the hospital.

City Environmental Education Project

Week of April 19 – April 26 **Reduce Your Environmental Impact Week.**

April 19: tours of Wastewater facility.

Also will be providing transportation to the Midwest Renewable Energy Fair. Jill Kessenich proposed donating money to the City so the City can pay for admission to the fair.

Motion by Leslie L/Kathy K: HOC will donate \$300 to the City to pay 15 admission fees for to the Midwest Renewable Energy Fair (priority given to first-time attendees).

Earth Day Celebration Planning

Saturday April 26. Need people to volunteer for various tasks. Both in preparation and on the day of. Vendors set up at 9:00, Parade at 12:00, Picnic at 12:30. Parade route will be determined by the committee.

Raffle prizes are still needed.

Announcements

Operation Adaptation on April 19, in Concord, WI (www.fatmawrooney.com/adaptation)

Next Steering Committee Meeting: April 28

Next General Meeting: May 12, Café Carpe – Jeff White from Renew Energy

Adjournment: 8:50 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Steve Tesmer