

Transition Humboldt Council Meeting
November 14, 2014 – John Schaefer's home, 4-6 pm

In Attendance: Andy Sehic, Joanne McGarry, Larry Goldberg, Jane Woodward, Janette Heartwood, Richard Kreis, Erin Rowe, Frank Milelzcik, John Schaefer,

Facilitator: Rich Lentz

Time Keeper: Jane Woodward

Notes: Erin Rowe/Karen Isa

Location: John Schaefer's Home

Action Items: Are underlined throughout this document rather than listing them again.

Everyone introduced themselves. Rich passed out copies of the Retreat Minutes (Key Ideas from Groups 1 and 2, Decisions for Next Council and a recap of the Discussion about Fundraising). He read aloud the ground rules and process for considering the decisions to be made on the agenda items. Everyone was given a packet of the printed project proposals from the Retreat.

1. Proposed New Organizational Structure, Rich Lentz:

In August, it was agreed all those who have attended at least three Council Meetings are welcome to vote as members of the Council. It was established that decisions would continue to be made by consensus. Today we would be working on the structure and responsibilities of the Council.

Rich tried to graphically capture the reorganizational structure discussed at the Retreat and sent to all participants with the summaries of the event. Historically, Working Groups were delegated around interests. Now we want to organize around projects with leaders who will champion, plan and carry out their project. Those projects from the Retreat are the following agenda items.

By the end of the meeting, the Education, Inner Transition and Zero Waste Lifestyle Working Groups were continued. Rich will continue to work on the graphic organizational chart and present it again. Throughout the year as other/pending projects are adopted, it will evolve.

2. Treasurer, Janette Heartwood:

Janette has taken a class, got a workbook, and has done other research to back up the proposal she has made. Janette has agreed to collect and pass along to the Plan It Green bookkeeper money collected at Transition Humboldt events. She is not comfortable with the designation "Treasurer" since she will not be holding/bookkeeping for Transition Humboldt. She prefers title: Transition Humboldt ACCOUNTING REPRESENTATIVE.

The Plan It Green bookkeeper will maintain a separate Ledger for Transition Humboldt (presumably TH will contribute part of the \$95 per month Plan It Green lists for Fiscal Services).

Larry agreed to furnish accounting of:

A) Money he feels is reimbursable to Plan It Green from past joint activities.

B) Estimate future expenses for TH should we continue under the umbrella of Plan It Green.

The original offer of insurance benefits did not include any financial obligation, only usage procedures. After the Transition Humboldt Council sees these Financial Reports a decision will be made as how best to associate with Plan It Green. Transition Humboldt could then decide anew regarding receiving Plan It Green's non-profit benefits of Insurance (presumably TH will contribute part of the \$75 per month cost).

11. This item was taken out of order: Venue committee needs to be formed to define needs, research and make decisions:
As a part of the discussion of costs (above), the need for a permanent potluck venue and venue costs came up. We will continue to meet in homes for the Council Meetings, but need an adequate venue for potlucks. It was decided to meet at Marsh commons for January and try out other suggestions until a more permanent solution is reached. A committee of the Education Working Group, which will meet December 1, will be responsible for this decision (Richard, Rich, Jane, Janette, Larry, Karen, and others in attendance).
3. Neighborhood Support Pods, Desiree Davenport:
Desiree emailed everyone with a larger description of her project and will again present it after her career obligations ease in January. Her project has similarities to Larry's.
4. Individual Lifestyle Changes, Jane Woodward:
Zero Waste Lifestyle Workgroup is ongoing with meetings and activities being planned. She is the Chair and will continue to request assistance with ways to assist individuals to become more resilient and to translate those suggestions into action. She is asking for endorsement and participation.
5. Transition Neighborhoods (Streets), Larry Goldberg:
He wants to write a grant to get a paid staff member then have that person direct a prepared 7-month program of simultaneously implementing 3-4 neighborhood community development projects. He will work on this further and make a request at a later date for adoption of this proposed project. He would like to ask Maggie Fleming of Transition US to present the idea at a potluck.
6. Northcoast Bioregional Meeting, Larry Goldberg:
At this point he is presenting the concept. He would like for us to host a meeting for representatives from the 5 northern counties (about a 30 people to meet and be housed) to come together and share strategies of developing resilience. He is forming a committee of himself, Joanne and Frank to do more research and present this as a project later.
7. Ground Ops, Erin Rowe:
She is working with all the local veterans groups to develop a program to enable veterans to be mentored in farming skills so that they would become farmers and increase locally produced foods from the current 5% to much more than that. She does not yet have a particular way in which this could fit into Transition Humboldt. She will get back to us at the next meeting.
8. Art of Hosting, Johnny Calkins:
The Inner Transition Working Group is ongoing. Erin reported for Johnny that bringing the Art of Hosting training here is being considered. It is recognized that a huge commitment of time, money and attendance would be required. Those who are working on this project are now in the process of determining whether or not this is the right time to bring it to this area. An Art of Hosting workshop is being held in Petaluma in January and Joanne plans to attend. Others were invited to attend. Johnny will report back on this at the next Council Meeting.
9. Education Work Group / Publicity Work Group / Potluck Gatherings, Richard Kreis:
Richard explained that the existing Education/Outreach Work Group needs to make some changes. They have been meeting monthly for two years and as web master he has developed and kept the web site up-to-date. This Working Group also produced the two Sustainable Living Skills Fairs, the ongoing monthly potlucks and now the monthly Salons.

He would like to have someone or group step forward and take responsibility for coordinating the publicity, partnering and tabling efforts. This would mean sending event announcements to all the local print media in advance of their deadlines, keeping track of requests for radio spots and interviews and receiving and coordinating tabling requests and other opportunities. Until changed, these responsibilities will continue as is.

The Education Working Group is ongoing.

10. Community Rights, Richard Kreis:

In Mendocino County the electorate just approved a Community Rights referendum as a result of work done by Paul Cienfuegos of Oregon, originally from Arcata, and with help from Willow Rain. He would like to have Willow (free of charge) make a presentation at one of our potlucks to better gauge the community response for launching into a major campaign to establish such rights locally. If we were to do this, it would be in Collaboration with other groups, possibly NEC, Sierra Club, etc. He will work with Willow to set up the initial introduction to the project at a potluck.

Announcements:

1. Larry: The group indicated interest in collaborating with a Climate Change Symposium being planned by Paul Hagan and three other large local groups. He will get more information and report back at the next meeting.
2. Erin: Inner Transition would like to plan “getting to know you” part 3, tentatively to include a group walk, possibly camping at Dry Lagoon and visioning for the future. Inner Transition is requesting input on what people want for that event.
3. Jane: The next potluck is at Scrap Humboldt, 11/21/14, where G and H streets intersect in Arcata, 4-6 pm. Zero Waste use of discarded materials will be demonstrated followed by our monthly fellowship and potluck. See everyone there.
4. A report from the Plan It Green Board meetings was requested for each Council Meeting.
5. Generally December is dark. However, the next Council Meeting is scheduled for December 14, 4-6 pm at Janette’s house.

Assignments for next Meeting: Date: December 14, 2015

Facilitator: Jane Woodward

Timekeeper: Janette Heartwood

Note-taker: Karen Isa

Meeting Location/Phone: Janette Heartwood’s

Adjournment: 6 pm