

August 29, 2007

Meeting of Planning Group for RWN Book Group Project

Pat Osborn, Marcia Meyers, Andrea Drury, Judy Bennett, Kim Ford

Books: Marcia brought copies of RWN that she is selling for \$18.00 (?) and she has given about 20 to In Other Words which they will sell on consignment for \$25, and they will pay Marcia \$15. Marcia has the books through UUJEC which bought them for \$15.00. The \$3 that Marcia gets from her sales will go to UUJEC.

EJAG Sponsorship – our effort is officially sponsored by the First Unitarian Church of Portland Economic Justice Action Group. Church sponsorship allows us to use the church Oct. 26.

“Book Study Group Guide” has been revised by Pat, incorporating the editing by Judy, Celeste, and Kim. A new draft was distributed. It looks good, and we can work with what we have remembering that we can revise it again after some book groups have used it. It has also been sent to Riane Eisler – she may have some suggested changes.

Book Groups: Judy and Andrea are each leading one and Marcia and Pat are doing one through the church. We are hoping others will be led by Celeste, Harriet Sheridan, Hafidha, and Patricia Stewart. We want to get this information on the website as soon as possible – Monday if possible. (Kim will step in if a group is forming that needs a leader – maybe.)

Meeting ground rules - we would like to add such a document to the Guide. Kim will try to get them from Jan Jewett, Pat might find some that Jan passed out, Judy can develop some from the good meeting website if the other avenues don't work.

October 26 presentation: With some of the other details worked out (above) our focus shifted to the October 26 appearance of Riane Eisler in Portland, and the need to raise money and do publicity. There is a possibility of getting \$600 from PSU if their Women's Studies Dept. writes a grant (Riane would need to speak there as well). Judy is investigating cost of hotels downtown. Pat suggested trying to find an individual who might be a donor. She will contact the women's groups at the church, also alerting them to our project. We hope to have a big crowd at the presentation, so that involves publicity.

Publicity: Pat will write a press release and a “blurb” that organizations can send out in email. Kim will compile a list of media outlets. We also need a list of like minded organizations that will pass the word out to their membership. We also need a list of places to post the flyer.

Flyer: It now seemed clear that we need the flyer of focus on the Oct. 26 event. Marcia will talk to Hafidha who has developed several very creative flyers. Kim and Marcia would like to work with Hafidha on a slightly revised flyer, maybe taking in aspects of all the flyers that Hafidha has already done.

Other Ideas: Andrea asked this question: How do we get the economic model to really change? We need a vision for Portland in 10 years. Here are some of the things we would like to see: every Portlander earns a living wage, all have full health care, there is a local stock market, there is a local currency, the city hires a philosopher to help decide how to spend public money, we have a secure local source of energy, food and water. Households are the focus when we measure the health of our community. We decided to have a big wall of butcher paper at

the Oct. 26 event where people can add their ideas for the vision. We will also blow up and post the resources listed on the website – the real wealth of Portland and people can add other local projects and initiatives.

Panel discussion for Oct. 26: We didn't talk about that.