

August 8, 2007

Meeting of Planning Group for RWN Book Group Project

We shared our work since the last meeting.

1. Andrea has a 2 page list of resources – things that are happening in Portland toward a more caring community. She is working to categorize the types of activities. She contacted friends for ideas for this list – many of them said they would like to be involved in the book group project, some as group leaders.
2. Andrea was wondering if our project would have a visioning component: Will we be collecting participants' ideas for their vision of how our community will look in 10 years? We decided we would like to collect people's ideas at the end of the book group project and find their areas of interest. At the Oct. 26 meeting with Riane Eisler, we would like to have a discussion of where we would like to see our efforts going toward action – and perhaps form new groups by interest area. In addition to having a conversation with Riane at this meeting, we would like to involve some of our participants and/or experts from the community through a panel discussion. We will need to develop a plan to collect participants' views and areas of interest in advance so that we can incorporate these into the final program (and perhaps find speakers in these areas).
3. Andrea also brought copies of Kosmos magazine and information on New Bottom Line – with new thinking on an ethical component for businesses – there is an e-letter (www.natlogic.com/resorces/nbl/index.html), and also Tikkun Community www.tikkun.org/community.new_bottom_line/
4. Pat is adding names to the email list and writing up meetings and sending out notices. Ann Kramer from Hood River may attend our next planning meeting – she is working on another blog on RWN, and is engaged in a counseling program that relates to the messages of RWN.
5. Hafidha has created a blog <http://realwealthpdx.wordpress.com> and is working on statements for it about what we are doing and an invitation to join book groups. We would also like Andrea's list of resources on the blog, and a bibliography of other books. She is also able to customize the flyer to advertise specific book groups once we have that information. She has also formatted all the discussion questions that were developed by Celeste, Pat, Hafidha, and Andrea. We will add to this a statement about what this project is about and an explanation of the role of the discussion leader/facilitator. Pat will develop these last two documents as a draft for the rest of us to review. This document will then stand as a description of our book group project that can be used by other communities.
6. Marcia was not able to attend – she is recovering from a fall last week and has not been able to read or drive! Be well Marcia!
7. We devoted the rest of our time to the logistics of forming the book groups. We need to begin recruiting 10 leaders for the groups. We will ask them to arrange a time to meet (day of week and time of day, and 4 dates before Oct. 26) and a location. They are welcome to recruit participants. We will advertise their group to our email list, on our blog, and through fliers. We need to develop the descriptions of their job – this will be part of recruiting them. Pat will develop this (see #5 above.) Andrea and Pat are both willing to be leaders. Hafidha wants to organize a group in Vancouver. Pat and Marcia will be leading a group as part of the fall RE program at First Unitarian Church.
8. Next meeting: Weds., August 15, 4 – 6 pm at Pat's house. We will be reading over the discussion questions for flow, and we want to weed out repetition of issues. We also want to think through how the group discussion questions and the dyads will be used in relation to each other.