

Transition Amherst Meeting Notes February 16, 2012

Began with our first book group meeting and pot luck from 6:15-7:30p.m. Reading 'The Transition Handbook'.

Our TT business meeting from 7:30-9p.m.

Present: Gabrielle and Ophelia (Amherst College Interns); Jessa (Hampshire College Representative); Jon K.; John W.;

Mona; Molly (co-facilitator); Emily (co-facilitator); Rick (timekeeper); Patty; Gabor; Wendi (notetaker); Betsy

NEXT MEETING: Thursday March 1st. Optional book group & pot luck 6:15-7:30. Read up to page 71. BRING YOUR OWN

plate, bowl, cup, eating utensils. Business meeting 7:30-9p.m. 89 Northeast Street at Bernard & Patty's. Gabor & Patty will co-facilitate.

Began meeting with brief check-in.

Announcements:

1) Workshop Saturday 9am-5pm-5/26/12 at Bernard & Patty's - 'Planting the Windbreak' . Flyer available.

2) There is a Vimeo on winter biking posted by Transition Amherst. Interested? Ask Gabor at gaborzol@gmail.com

Great Unleashing - Betsy will invite Tina Clark to a TT meeting to help with our direction in planning our Great Unleashing.

We have a main committee for our great unleashing planning, and sub-committees will be needed from our larger group

to make this event happen. We brainstormed different groups we may need for creating and facilitating this event:

Technology, Logistics, Publicity & Media, Table at Amherst Sustainability Festival; Details day of the event; Follow-up;

Networking with other groups; Budget creation & tracking; Music; Handouts; Facilitate discussion groups day of; Food & drink; Tables for other networking groups at our GU;

This is a brainstormed list and is not conclusive or fine-tuned. The general subcommittee for the GU will take this list and turn it into something concise.

Betsy, Gabrielle and Ophelia are interested in doing outreach and networking.

Amherst College Interns - Gabrielle(Gabby) and Ophelia are eager for projects to take on. These can be networking on campus; outreach at school and around town; advertising; create a Facebook page for Amherst TT; Research facilities at Amherst College for our Great Unleashing, as well as locations for Skilling Workshops. If our GU is not until next Fall they and we need to change our focus with them as they will not be here when we put on th GU.

Website -

- Gabor has requested a 2nd time constructive feedback on the website. Really wants and needs our eyes and ideas!
- Excellent tool for outreach
- Meeting Minutes will be uploaded to the website
- All big decisions from our meetings will be posted (to a sidebar) on the website.
- Bernard has alot of photos to send Gabor. (The website needs photos...)
- Ophelia, Gabby and Jessa can offer valuable feedback from their younger and sharper perspective.

Tutorial from Jon K. on Process Communication

Jon provided a handout with 8 hand signals to use in meetings, used as a model by Occupy Wall Street and other consensus-based groups. He also suggested using something called 'stacking' as a way to track folks who want a turn to speak at our meetings.

Wendi has used this model of 'stacking' many times and will demonstrate it throughout our next meeting.

Treasurer Report - John W. said we have \$316. in Northampton Cooperative Bank. People can now write checks to "Transition Amherst" !

Valley Time Trade - How does it work? How to participate? Further discussion next meeting when Bernard is here.

Regional TT Conference Call - Jon K. will be Amherst TT rep. for the regional TT 3/21 conference call. He will find out for us what is the purpose of the call and who will be on the call?

Hampshire College Intern Report - Jessa is trying to get Hampshire College to be a Transition College. Wants to do many events with students - possibly collaborate with a TT Amherst event. Next semester plans for a Sustainability Event on campus with other student groups. Faculty, staff and students meet for an hour every Wednesday .

Decisions and Highlights from this meeting:

- 1) GU committee will organize from our brainstormed list what our next steps will be.
- 2) Interns will come to our next meeting with what they want to offer us this semester.
- 3) Wendi will demonstrate 'stacking' at our next meeting to facilitate organized and fair dialogue.
- 4) We will all look at website and send Gabor feedback .

Submitted by Wendi Weinberg