

Minutes for July 5 meeting

Present: Gabor, Molly, Bernard, Wendi (facilitator), Emily, John W., Tina

Next meeting will be on July 19<sup>th</sup> at John W.'s house: 265 Stanley St. Gabor will be facilitating.

## REPORTS

Gabor held an '**All About Water**' workshop on 6/23 at his house. He was "delightfully pleased" with how it went. Seven people attended and there was a good discussion and positive feedback. He is currently planning a two-part workshop on blackberry harvesting and jam making/canning. Part 1 (picking) will be on the fourth Saturday of July, part 2 will be on the Sunday (jam and can).

### *More Transition Amherst Outings*

Gabor also reported that the outreach coordinator of Cows has offered to lead a Transition Amherst outing through her woods. The walk will be around two hours and will be scheduled for some time after the last planned outing (which is on July 22). Gabor will announce date, time and place once it's confirmed. He would also like to organize a town bike ride. Either on trails or roads. He is planning the route.

### *Water Workshop*

Bernard would like to organize a water workshop. "Where our water comes from and goes to." John W. said he will be contacting the person who works in the Water Department at the Public Works office in September to coordinate something and hopefully attract students. The workshop will explore where our water comes from, where does it go and what to do we do to it.? John W. noted that there is no way to determine what is actually in our water and thus no way to treat it. Perhaps an hour can be devoted to discussing how the aquifers are being depleted.

## WEBSITE STUFF

Gabor continues to invite people to blog. The “Uncategorized” section of the blogs was renamed: “Dialogues and Conversations” and “Other Important Topics.”

There was a discussion around who/how/when an “ALL THINGS LOCAL” static page would be created on the website. Tina committed to the possibility of getting two or three small pieces to Gabor in the next few weeks with the understanding that more people need to collectively review the language. John W. said there was a meeting coming up and he will make it a point to bring the website/language issue to the meeting, etc. Bernard noted that it was still a project in its infancy and it “will be ready, when it’s ready.”

### TRANSITION US DISCUSSION

Emily will be on the west coast for the next few weeks meeting with Transition members in Washington, Oregon and California, and with Carolyn Stayton, the Executive Director of Transition US. The group offered comments, questions, requests to be shared with Transition US.

### GREAT UNLEASHING EVENT NOW HAS A NAME!

Wendi announced that the highest ranked name (with three members of the group ranking this name first) is “ALL THINGS COMMUNITY: CELEBRATING AMHERST IN TRANSITION.” Wendi announced this was now the official name and will send out a formal announcement to the email naming thread. Any reactions, comments, discussion was strictly prohibited as there was “17 minutes left of the meeting with a lot more to discuss.”

### Priorities: Location and Outreach

Wendi requested another volunteer help find a location. Location suggestions were offered. She will inquire and ask about back up dates if the 13<sup>th</sup> of October is booked.

Venue Ideas (I’m taking these from last meeting’s notes. More were suggested.)

Bangs Community Center

Red Barn at Hampshire College  
NACUL Center  
Schools  
Barry Roberts owns Amherst Cinema  
Church

#### OUTREACH—

“Transition Neighborhood.” Tina suggested house and farm parties as a great way to spread the word. Somebody at Applewood Housing in Amherst has offered to host one on July 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup>.

Shel Horowitz has offered to write and distribute press releases.

Once the date and venue are confirmed, Tina suggested sending “Save the Date” announcements.

John W. will bring the large document of (people, places, networks and organizations) to the next meeting in order for people to organize who and how outreach will be conducted.

Molly also noted that the new initiative “Growing Food in Community” has their next meeting on Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM – noon in the Town Room of Town Hall.