

TCRP Minutes 4 March 2006

Corrections to 4 February 2006 Minutes

One of our two guests last month is named Persephone Doliner, not Stephanie Doliner.

Roll Call

Jon Bosak, Josh Dolan, Meredith Graham, Marty Hiller, Denise Mooney, Terry Moore, Kate Quinn-Jacobs, Angelika Rumberger, Bethany Schroeder, Simon St. Laurent

Upcoming presentations

1. 27 March 2006: Radio interview scheduled with Jason Bradford, KZYY, WELL

2. 29 March 2006: Scheduled at Greenstar (7-9 p.m.).

AI: Marty may have a contact at IC; she'll let the group know later.

Press inquiries

1. Jake McNamara, *Ithaca Times*: *IT* is interested in knowing about TCRP, but has put us on hold for now. Jon wondered whether the newspaper might accept an article from us. **AI:** Jon will check with McNamara.

2. Matthew Peterson, *The Forum*: This is a new publication. The editor would like to feature the TCRP but has put the work on hold until we hear from *Ithaca Times*, understanding the *IT* coverage could be significant to the TCRP effort. **AI:** Jon will update us next meeting on progress.

3. E. J. George, *Ithaca Community News*: Completed the interview 3/5/06; slated for publication in upcoming issue. Jon and Bethany participated, and Bethany sent the interviewer several TCRP members' email addresses in hopes that additional members' insights might prove useful to the development of the article.

Additional press

After reading a short article in *The Underground Collective* on peak oil, Bethany contacted the editor and offered to develop related material for the paper, to which the editor agreed. An article that includes peak oil and TCRP information will appear in the upcoming Spring Issue. Thereafter the editor has asked for a peak oil article for each issue.

Report: Earth Day planning

Simon, Angelika, Josh, and Denise are working on format and organization of activities and the TCRP booth. They hope to cover such concerns as transportation, food, heating, and community issues. They're also looking into possible activities for kids. As a sidebar, whether included in Earth Day activities or not, Josh wants to promote

seed sharing through the Seed Trust, and will look into getting funding from private donations and perhaps Sustainable Tompkins in order to get a portable rack that can be taken to community events. The TCRP Earth Day organizers hope to sell “peak oil” versus “cheap oil” cookies; arrangements for baking still under discussion. Bethany will check with Post Carbon Institute about the possibility of selling books and slides at the event as well. **AI:** The group will meet again on March 22 at Josh’s home. Registration is due March 31; Bethany to coordinate with Simon regarding fees and the registration form. Simon remains the point person on this project. We’ll look into sending out information about TCRP’s participation in Earth Day events through the Sustainable Tompkins list later.

Report: Brochure

At Earth Day, as well as all public events, TCRP would like to have a flyer to distribute. Following the February 4 meeting and at the request of contributors, Bethany sent out a handout that she and Jon developed in the early stages of TCRP organization. Feedback about that flyer has led to a short, attractive alternative, which Angelika shared in email prior to the present meeting and which was then discussed further. **AI:** Angelika and Denise will work on the flyer further, in an effort to arrive at a take-away item that we can continue to use to educate the community about our work. Angelika and Denise will distribute the results to the list. In the mean time, the former flyer can be used and will stand, with edits as needed, as an executive summary.

Report: Editable TCRP presentation slides

Jon to post editable slides to list serve, including graphs that will reproduce well (including in the brochure noted above). Simon asked about printing costs—Jon and Bethany to cover everything, and arrangements/fees can be discussed with either or both of them. **AI:** Ongoing feedback about the materials is welcomed.

Report: Food team

The group has “lots of unfinished business.” Simon wondered whether the group should post questions, discussions, and progress to all TCRP contributors: members agreed with YES! Ed has a list of topics to share with the whole membership later, and the team will continue to sort through issues such as who the actors are and what each participant does related to the research underway. **AI:** A follow-up meeting is being arranged.

Coordination site

- Status (see <http://tclocal.org>), which is now largely unpopulated.

This site arose out of discussions related to the repository, and Dave secured the domain for us. Members agreed that it's an apt moniker. Yet we wondered whether this would require a name change. Would we continue to be the TCRP or would our work become the TCRP, while we morphed into tclocal? How should we characterize outreach?

- Content organization (and its organizational implications)

Members discussed research areas and how to divide them up. Jon re-described the usual hierarchal method we have discussed in the past, where a manager or administrator oversees the work of other contributors. Alternately, he shared a further refined list of research categories and suggested that individuals could take whatever pleased them and become responsible for the entire product, including notation of sources, writing, and management of that section of the repository. Contributors agreed to the latter. When an area has not yet been taken, all members of the TCRP will have read-write access to it. Once an area owner rises to the challenge, good ideas, suggestions, and research examples from among other members can be sent to that owner. The group discussed the possibility that people may have disagreements about how to address, define, and document research areas. (See bosak@ibiblio titled "Moving the repository forward," 3/07/06, 1:29 p.m., for further details about repository management from Jon.)

- Next steps

We had agreed to undertake a discussion in this meeting of the Bay Area Relocalization plan in light of our own TCRP plan document. **AI:** As a result of new developments with the repository and the web site, members postponed sharing observations until next meeting, before which Simon will do a gap analysis of similar Bay Area, Kinsale, and Willits efforts. Bethany will get the necessary information about access of information to Simon.

- Domain name and web site: access as tclocal.org

How do we update the website?

- Suggestion from Town of Franklin: regional Relocalization

Eugene Marner of Franklin has suggested that Franklin and Ithaca collaborate in sponsoring a Relocalization conference. Members asked what the scope would be and who would do the planning. How would our group manage the logistics, and when would we be willing to take on the project? Open space and Todd were both mentioned as resources (locals, help me here; I took the note but don't understand the context! Bethany) Josh, Bethany, and Meredith are willing to help, so long as a conference date is set following the summer months. **AI:** Bethany will begin a discussion with Eugene. Someone who was at the meeting and knows about open space and Todd will enlighten us in email or at the next meeting.

Discussion: order of work

In addition to our end-deliverable, which is the entire plan document, we agreed that other products of this effort include education of the community and the repository. We further agreed that all deliverables are equally valuable, becoming ends in themselves.

Discussion: county deliverable; see

<http://lists.ibiblio.org/mailman/private/tcrp/2006-February/000173.html> regarding Marty's questions:

Jon explained that in his original conception of the TCRP, the plan for the county served as a literary device, one that helped him to organize its phases and details and made it possible for him to describe it to others in the community. In discussing scope and management of ideas, Jon advised that each work item requires recommendations based on what the individual working on that item imagines would happen. Terry pointed out the usefulness of identifying variables and constraints, and Jon reminded us that an example of scope is our timeline of 2010-2020. In the end, we will make recommendations rather than try to tell the county what to do. Gathering and presenting information is one way of helping to determine policy; our recommendations will be directed toward local decision makers. We wondered how else to characterize our project. Should we include worst vs. best cases? We agreed that we should identify stakeholders as well as those with local influence.

April 29 meeting (scheduling conflict)—changed to 5/6. Bethany is now working with the group to see whether we can postpone that meeting to 5/13. The results will appear in email or be announced at the April 1 meeting.

Dinner: New Delhi Diamond