

TCLocal Meeting Minutes: 9 September 2006

Roll Call Jon Bosak, Marty Hiller, Denise Mooney, Merry Muraskin (welcome to our new member), David Panofsky, Kate Quinn-Jacobs, Angelika Rumberger, Bethany Schroeder, Simon St. Laurent

Regrets Josh Dolan (returns from CA in January); Jen Maffet, Ed Mikula, Terry Moore

Postmortems 12 July: Presentation to Tompkins County Environmental Management Council — *Jon & Bethany* Jon's presentation was well received, with good questions and much interest expressed in TCLocal's research effort.

18 July & 22 August: Peak Oil discussion group — *Bethany et al.* The group is small but its members come regularly. Discussions are initiated through readings that members complete prior to each meeting.

22 August: Remote presentation to Sustainable Lifestyles Symposium (Ontario): Jon estimated 8-12 participants from the conference attended his remote presentation.

Upcoming TCLocal and Related Events

13 September: Presentation to Catholic Workers — *Jon & Bethany*

19 September: Peak Oil discussion group (Autumn Leaves, Ithaca, 7 p.m.) — *Bethany et al.*

October 7: Marty reminded the members of the upcoming area energy tour.

19 October: Presentation at Kendal Continuing Care — *Jon & Bethany*

ASPO peak oil conference in Boston: 10/26-27

October 26: Franklin, NY and TCLocal consultation—*does anyone want to join Jon and Bethany?*

9 November: Invited to discussion following showing of "How Cuba Survived Peak Oil" at Sustainable Tompkins meeting (*note that this is open to all of us*)

Several conferences noted on sustainable agriculture this Fall and Winter

Possible Quaker presentation in November

4-H Fall presentation, **TBA with Theresa George through Kate.**

Visitors

29 August: Ian Graham (Burlington, ON): Ian had lunch with Jon and Bethany following the Sustainable Lifestyles Symposium, which Ian organized.

7 September: Ted Millich (Charlottesville, VA): Discussed TCLocal's successes and challenges since inception. Ted has started a small group of peak oil activists in Charlottesville and is hoping to learn what has worked in communities elsewhere.

Research Progress Reports

Angelika: Has started her research; is using Pimentel's work. Members of the group wondered whether Pimentel knows about TCLocal and whether he might be interested in contributing or consulting regarding the topics of energy and food security.

Simon: Has been looking for information on highway decay, with little results. Kate recommended researching Love Canal in Niagara Falls. Marty recommended looking at Africa or India's approach.

Merry: Found a useful soil article in Permaculture Activist; Angelika will check out the soil survey map for the area in Merry's behalf.

Marty: Has collected a number of articles and will get them into the repository soon.

Kate: Has been busy with summer activities, but completed a fair amount of research earlier this season and will return to her efforts as soon as the harvest is in, etc.

Dave: Has found several general interest items, including census information.

Merry asked about the Bulletins available in the 20s and 30s; may be available at CU Extension or Cornell; Dave recommended Google Scholars as a research tool.

Denise: Remains available to the group for physical, emotional, and spiritual support

Bethany: Has a per diem job with Public Health, which she thinks will help her understand the County system better. Has also been elected to the Ithaca Health Alliance Board, through which there may be some opportunities to learn about resources, especially complimentary resources.

Jon: Has been working on the TCLocal site by using Ithaca Journal articles to populate the repository.

Progress Report, including UI Changes: Dave Q-J has made some improvements, and Jon encouraged everyone to evaluate the interface; check out Help and About for further needed suggestions.

Usability feedback: Discussed hierarchy and organization of site, concluding that "anyone who creates a new category has to ask the list" before instantiating an addition.

Timing the Peak Jon asked the group to consider the timing of the peak, including ASPO's prediction of 2010, among the predictions of others. We may experience a plateau versus a peak, which we all agreed was bad news.

Action Item Review

Simon to get instructions on Via PDF creator: **Done**

Jon to choose a style guide—APA: **Done**

Marty to get the Small Farms and CU Extension mail list contacts to Jon: **Pending**

Other Business Jon and Bethany want members to know that their truck is available for borrow. The group also discussed holding potlucks after the meetings rather than eating out. Denise offered her place in town, which is open prior to the meetings and where members can leave items, particularly if they want them placed on low in the stove or placed in the refrigerator. We'll begin meetings through Winter at 4 and end at 6, so that we can then have dinner and get home at a reasonable hour.

Next Meeting October 7, 2006, 4-6, with optional potluck to follow at Denise's house.

Submitted by Bethany Schroeder