

TCLocal Meeting Minutes – March 3, 2012

Held at 109 S. Albany St. (Sustainable Tompkins offices), Ithaca, NY. Thanks to ST for the office.

Present: Jon Bosak, Krys Cail, Karl North, Bethany Schroeder, Tom Shelley, Simon St. Laurent

1) Review of the minutes of the previous meeting: No additional changes.

Review/modification of agenda: below.

2) Publishing-related items:

- Distributing Volume 2—Jon: finished with the exception of TCAT.
- Preliminary financial report: Buffalo Street Books sold 6 of each issue, and we have delivered 8 more of each to the book store.
- Pro forma consideration of a solicitation for grant writing services: no need at this time; Bethany will keep the solicitation.
- Next article: Benefits, beginning with Karl's draft: will be out to the group next week, and commitment from all to comment in email. Discussed possibility of skype access for Karl in order to keep him involved, once he leaves the area.
- Future articles (see below)
- Recruiting contributors: no new writers.

3) Outreach / Interactions with other organizations: none

4) Green building code class (report)—Jon: Consultants from Newport Ventures provided a report on new NYS building codes. Pros and cons related to whether people should upgrade were discussed. Reviewed rating systems and some of the values of each. Jon has a handout from the presentation, if anyone is interested.

5) Local municipal issues

Town of Ithaca Planning Board: Other T of I updates—Jon: nothing; Comp plan meeting between city and town is in planning stage.

Dryden updates—Simon: fracking decision won! Discussions in progress about sensitive environmental issues. Town now has an Ag committee.

City of Ithaca updates—Tom: still getting public input from city of Ithaca about the comp plan. Mayor is interested in chicken issues.

Ulysses updates—Krys: sent around information about brine. Close to enough donations to pay for amicus brief. Retains some hope that association of towns may join in the anti-fracking effort.

Broadband committee—Jon: committee is now operational; public comment being taken over the next few months.

Anything else? Simon will do a weather presentation 4/26. Simon says the word is that Ithaca School District has been offered \$70 million to take over Newfield. BOCES superintendent is retiring, which will trigger an evaluation of whether it will remain open. Short discussion of congressional seat changes.

6) Discussion du jour...

Green Metropolis by David Owen—Karl: NY City under evaluation re: energy use. Karl is thinking about this from the long-view, which he doesn't think the author achieves.

7) Next meeting/future agenda items: April 7, 4-6

Current publication schedule for 2012:

February 2012: Benefits of Relocalization, self-reliance, and lower complexity (Karl)

March 2012: Seed Saving (Bethany and Suzanne McMannis)

April 2012: Localized weather reporting (Simon)

May 2012:

June 2012: Cities and suburbs; adaptive reuse (Karl)

July 2012: Green Burials (Mary Woodson)

August 2012: Demographics, nodes, census data (Simon and Krys)

September 2012: TBD

November 2012: Local meat processing (Krys)

Dates TBD:

Microclimates (Simon)

Case studies of three solar farmhouse projects (Karl)

Emergy (Karl or Tom)

Authors TBD:

Transportation Issues (Fernando De Aragon?)

Natural advantages of Tompkins County (including water transport)

Hunting

Psychological impacts

Land Use Law and the Allocation of Underground Caves