

Sustainable Berea Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2007

Approximately 50 people attended the summer activities kick-off progressive dinner and meeting which began at Cherry Road Court, Berea. The 4 p.m. potluck included four tables worth of fabulous food followed by a meeting at 5 p.m. People then marched, carrying *Sustainable Berea* signs, from Cherry Road to Adams Street for the dessert portion of the event.

Minutes from the meeting

Welcome and thanks:

Becky Roselli, Doreen Parsley and other residents of Cherry Road Court for organizing and setting up the potluck supper, handling the e-mail and newspaper advertising for the summer kick-off meeting today.

Gail Waldeck for work with Local Business Directory

Joe and Rachael for setting up our data base

John Payne for work with Sustainable Berea signage

Ada Beale for helping construct signs

Liz Noland (not present) for organizing students to work on business directory

Katie Maginel for organizing the fruit tree give away project

Neighborhood news:

Cherry Road neighborhood is setting up a neighborhood watch and asks for people interested to get in touch with Becky Roselli. The neighborhood definition is from the railroad tracks to highway 25, and from Chestnut Street to Cherry street.

Adams Street neighborhood reported a very successful yard sale involving 14 families on Derby Day. Adams will plan to repeat this activity next year.

Raised beds are up and can be seen at Olsons' house. Let Olsons know if you want raised beds from local cedar or other materials.

Treasurer's report:

Cheyenne Olson reported on the finances for Sustainable Berea over the past 14 months.

Approximately \$3,000 was put into the treasury from donations to Olson wedding. The largest single donation in 2006 was \$500. The largest single donation in 2007 has been \$300. We have done no formal fund-raising, but a thank you letter and update to all those who gave in 2006 generated \$150 in 2007. We are gearing up to secure a data base system so we can engage in serious fund-raising and Cheyenne is close to submitting the 501c3 application.

Our primary expenses include:

Lawyer fees – 119

Internet/website/webmaster – 497

Flyers/newspaper advertising – 427

Edible Yard Signs – 261

Postage – 42

Stationery – 205 courtesy Richard Olson

Local directory -- 40

Balle materials – 120

Balle conference for Ada -- Free airline ticket SWA courtesy Cheyenne. Reduced registration courtesy Ann Bartz – Balle., costs have not all come in yet.

Meeting expenses: rent, food, lodging for out of town speakers – 812

Fruit Trees – 1,500 , courtesy Richard Olson

Balle Conference Report: Ada Beale attended the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE) 5th Annual Conference, May 31-June 2, 2007, at the University of California, Berkeley as a representative of Sustainable Berea.

<http://www.livingeconomies.org/aboutus/conference-pages/leading-the-evolution-of-local-living-economies>. 700 people from around the globe attended the conference. Ada learned a lot and was very grateful for the opportunity to attend the conference, meet others and learn about BALLE, how it works and how others are approaching sustainability in their communities. She will be giving a presentation to Sustainable Berea and the community about what she learned about developing a “buy local, think local, be local” campaign.

Summer projects: A list of possible Sustainable Berea projects for summer 2007 (see attached) was reviewed, and people volunteered to be project coordinators. All coordinators will meet at 199 Adams Street Tuesday June 19, at 6 p.m. for dinner and a meeting. Before you come, please have already checked your calendars for dates for projects, and clear with any people you need to about venues. This meeting is to FINALIZE the calendar, so please do your advance work prior to the meeting.

Any others wishing to join one of these coordinator’s projects please attend the meeting and bring a dish for dinner.

Project coordinators are:

Local business directory and buy local campaign: Ada Beale, Gail Waldeck, Mary Bell, Martin Richards, Rosan Effron

Edible Yard Contest: Doreen Parsley, Becky Roselli, Richard Olson

Food preservation workshops: Maggie St. Ives, Avena Cash

Fall fruit tree project: Kati Maginel, George Schloemer

Fund-raising: Cheyenne Olson, Gail Waldeck

Alternative Energy (residential): Tom Leonard

Richard donated two books to be raffled for a fund-raising event. George Schloemer won a copy of Barbara Kingsolver’s “Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life,” and Tom Hubbard won a copy of “Plenty: One Man, One Woman, and a Raucous Year of Eating Locally”. The raffle netted \$42 for the Sustainable Berea treasury.

Membership list:

Sustainable Berea now has nearly 160 people on its list. This includes people who have attended meetings of SB and people who have given to Sustainable Berea. Managing the list, engaging in marketing and fund-raising, are necessary for SB to continue to grow and be responsive to the needs of the community. Any people interested in working with Cheyenne on these strategies, please contact her at: colson@sustainablebera.org

Thanks to all for a great June kick-off meeting! Stay tuned for the summer schedule to be posted on the website on June 20.

June 10, 2007

Sustainable Berea Summer 2007 Projects

Sustainable Berea's members have suggested several projects for this summer that would support our goals of stronger neighborhoods and a more sustainable community, and fit within SB's ongoing projects: Edible Yard, Local Economy, Home Energy Conservation and Production, Sustainable Neighborhoods, and Community Education. Summer is here, and the group needs to decide what projects it will undertake. Following is a brief description of the suggested projects. Are you interested in joining a group to work on a particular project?

Edible Yard contest: Which residential yards within the Berea city limits are the best examples of "urban" food production? Residents can nominate their own yards or someone else's. An eight-member judging panel will select three winners, who will each receive a \$100 gift certificate from a local merchant that sells gardening related materials (Potting Shed has agreed to be one of the sponsors). Would you like to help develop contest rules, advertise, line up sponsors, assemble a judging panel, organize an educational tour of the three winners.....

Food preservation and cooking classes: What do we do with all the great home-grown produce? There are many people in Berea who know how to can, freeze and dry food, and to cook with fresh produce. Would you like to help identify some of these experts, organize several cooking and food preservation workshops.....

Buy local campaign: Ada Beale represented Sustainable Berea at last month's conference in Berkeley California of the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE). She brought back lots of information (and a set of CDs of the keynote presentations) on how we can build a stronger Berea economy. Would you like to help complete the local business directory (hardcopy and on-line versions), develop a Berea Local! logo, plan a fall buy local campaign....

Fall fruit tree giveaway: The spring giveaway of 100 fruit trees was a hit, although the record cold snap a week after planting took a toll. Many members have asked for a fall fruit tree project. Would you like to help contact the people who planted trees this spring to see how we might improve the project, identify the best varieties for our conditions and a good source for them, plan the fall event.....

Rain barrels: As Berea's population and demand for water increases, and drought periods occur, we need to water our edible yards more efficiently. When it does rain, we can capture some of the water running off our roofs in homemade rain barrels and use it to water the gardens and trees. Would you like to help identify sources of low-cost barrels (Rita knows of some used 55-gallon cooking oil barrels) and sources of conversion kits, advertise and take orders from SB members, and organize a workshop to convert the barrels to rain barrels that will attach to the down spout from the roof....

Community education: Would you like to write a short article for the Sustainable Berea newsletter? Help to distribute the newsletter?

Other projects: What are your ideas for making Berea a more sustainable community and your neighborhood a better place to live?

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