

April 13, 2012
Film: "IN TRANSITION 2.10"

DISCUSSION SUMMARY

Guests:

- * John Samaras and Sue McGann, steering committee members with Sustainable NE Seattle. <http://sustainableseattle.ning.com/> <http://sustainableseattle.ning.com/profiles/members/> (also Meaningful Movies Project Staff)
- * Joann Kerr, co-founder of and steering committee member with Sustainable NE Seattle
- * Susan Gregory, co-founder of and steering committee member with Sustainable NE Seattle.
- * Leo Brodie of Transition Seattle (hub), <http://transitionseattle.com/>, also steering committee member with Sustainable NE Seattle (which is the only "official" Transition Initiative inside Seattle city limits – and which is also a member of SCALLOPS, Sustainable Communities All Over Puget Sound)
- * Cathy Tuttle of Sustainable Wallingford doing lots of Transition stuff (referred to as a "muller" maybe ☺) ..

Circle was broken up into small groups, which discussed one of the following 3 questions:

Question #1

You are on the steering committee for Transition Seattle. You want to create an event to introduce the city to Transition. What kind of event would you plan?

Small group report by John:

The progression of discussion in our small group went mostly like this:

- a) *if we had a film, what building/hall could accommodate most of Seattle's population – doesn't seem feasible..*
- b) *tabling at Farmers Markets all over Seattle on a continuous basis – but that's a lot of work and people tend to ignore this.*
- c) *have a small theater group action at Farmers Markets to attract attention and send them to the table for more info – this would get peoples' attention and those interested could follow up – would require less work and events overall for greater effect..*
- d) *show a movie (eg In Transition 2.0) and have discussions in small groups with your personal friends and connections in living rooms; this could then be spread (virally) as network, as each interested person in each group gathers with their own (other) friends and networks to do the same.. least amount of effort?*

Question #2

You are on the City Council (CC) and have just found out about the transition movement. You are super excited and want to involve the city in Transition activities. What's the first thing you would do?

Small group report by Claire

I tell them to help end corporate personhood

I don't go to their meeting and instead have a block party to inform my neighbors about the movement

I invite all CC members to attend my music and performance event at Good Shepherd July 30, this time for free (donations are welcome), to connect with Transition through art.

I inform myself thoroughly about Transition and I get mentored too, so I can talk clearly and eloquently to CC once ready: I am well prepared for maximum efficiency

*I look at food initiatives and from there, I help develop connection between Transition and CC
I go and really listen. I emphasize the importance of true listening.*

I ask CC to stop giant city projects with corporations (road construction etc)

I don't go to the CC meeting and instead I act from home, where I have more control over my contribution and results. From home, I communicate about CC and Transition with friends and neighbors.

I doubt that engaging in city bureaucracy will do much good. Instead, I invite the CC member out of their armchairs onto the hard chairs of meaningful movies; I especially invite them to come to the May 18th show and join the panel discussion with filmmaker, doctors and other medical staff, and Transition members. I call for urgent healthcare transition from impersonal processing, outrageous medical billing and insurance practices, to the spirited service practiced by Community Clinics (solidarity, affordability, compassionate listening, diversity, respect, people-first attitude). I keep mentioning that I see Community Health care as the great model for the nation and that they must be funded so they thrive, not just barely survive.

Question #3

You live in a neighborhood with mixed ethnicities and income levels. Most people in your area are struggling financially and wondering how to deal with climate change or peak oil. How would you engage your neighbors in Transition and how would you convince them to get involved.

Small group report by Devananda

Start with Food. Growing, Sharing

Weekly or monthly pot lucks

Involve the community center and community resources, including library meeting rooms

Involve Neighborhood Watch network

Survey Local needs, what people can/will offer to help with skills, space

Define rules of engagement (What are you willing to share, offer, contribute, share, ask for?)

Form co-operatives to serve community local markets

Have child care at local events to free parents' attention

Build a Dream bank to work from.

Create a Tool bank with rules for use.

Create space for light repairs and refurbishing items

Summary Notes by Claire (...thanks Claire!)