

## NOTES OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOOD FOCUS GROUP MEETING

### ROY'S NOTES

We should have a set of working principles. One that came out was something like:

"Create an environment that facilitates giving". Lets work in an economy of abundance, not of scarcity. Lets sustain each other's capacity to give. Each generation and type of person has different things to give.

People wanted to talk about architectural review and other regulations. The mood was to keep things fairly open, encouraging people to make additions and allowing for some quirky character.

Is condominium a useful ownership structure for this place?

How amenities are owned and shared should be worked out, and clear from the beginning. Roy suggested that a person or group would build and own the amenity, and commit to sharing it. (Amenity means gym, library, greenhouse, etc.)

Community should have satellite elements out in the community. It should have a porous relationship with the neighborhood, and help to stabilize the neighborhood.

### BRIAN'S NOTES

In a relaxed atmosphere of conversation, sharing and listening;

- Rhea spoke about a "Conscious Aging Network of New Mexico",

(Contacts; Elizabeth Etigson, albuerque 344-3782 and Ardyth Norem santa fe, 473-4017)

- Spa's ...Colleges could become more Spa like
- There's an amazing place, Angel's nest, across the Gorge Bridge north of Taos, that's very future designed, alternative energy. Sali talked about a field trip.

Brian spoke about Greenhouses, and showed pictures of Anna Eddy's kitchen and bathroom on the south side of her home, integrated into the growing area. Mike Reynold's Earthships have a south side planted greywater purifier built into the living spaces (approved by the State of New Mexico Environmental Department).

- The Principle of giving "Burning Man" came up.
- How to create aliveness, creativity flowing.
- How to share stuff, like a library of books or tools. Things can walk away, or get worn out.

Roy presented a schematic of a site, where each compound has a "theme" and provides a service that meets the compound's needs, as well as meets the needs of the other compounds and possibly the needs of the surrounding community.

The "YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING ABOVE GARAGES" provided the car share and laundry/workroom.

The "ARTISTS COOPERATIVE WORKSHOPS" provided the woodshop and the Salon/Gallery.

The "CHILD-ORIENTED HOUSES" provided daycare and a yoga room.

The "COHOUSING GROUP" provided the guestrooms and greenhouse.

The "SMALL HOUSES AND ECO-HOUSES" provided the gym and formal garden.

The "LIVE/WORK AND COMMERCIAL SPACES" provided the spa and meeting hall.

The "ELDER HOUSING GROUP" provided the community gardens and library.

Again, this was a conceptual diagram, but the implications seemed (to me) profound. "Service" becomes a part of every day life. Serving one's self and serving others. For profit or not for profit, both needing to cover costs. Practical.

A neighborhood harnessing individual initiative and getting a rich aliveness going on. Mutual support and benefit, **shared benefits.**

**How to downsize into your neighborhood.** A Couple raises their children, retires and wants to stay in their neighborhood and not go into a retirement home (so say 80% of folks over 50, AARP). What are needed are smaller independent "cottages" and a small assisted-living home (with housing for live in nurses) in the neighborhood. Folks can downsize and stay in their familiar community. Daily meals are provided in the assisted-living home and the folks nearby in the independent living cottages can walk over and join in the meals. (Idea from Chris Alexander, *A Pattern Language*).