

**NEXT MEETING...IS SEPTEMBER 29th, 6:30 at Roy's Place**

**6:00 – 6:30 for Newcomer's Orientation, Q & A.**

**6:30 – 7:00 pot luck**

**7-9 meeting**

## **NOTES FROM THE 5<sup>TH</sup> SUSTAINABLE FOCUS GROUP MEETING (Sept 8, 05)**

As there were quite a few new participants, we went around the room and shared our interests and the size of the yard/gardening space we'd like.

- Options beyond "Normal size" for artists and affordability. Currently there's a big disparity between traditional vs. potential housing design.
- A "3-Plex" with shared kitchen, separate wings for each resident, private yard, sitting room in each. Sitting rooms bigger than bedrooms, with hot plate, tea pot, microwave. Include shared guest room. Convertible to office, separate entrance.
- Where will I be living in 20 years as I grow older? Spiritual aspect to community, shared stuff.
- A "4-plex", three are rentals, with clubhouse, where am I going to be in 10 years?
- Physical set up effects interaction. People are too busy. Downsize to 2 bedrooms, with good neighbors.
- Highly energy efficient, common wall ok, small dog, have to garden.
- Conversational neighborhood, 10-minute walk to shops, amenities, trails, trolley ride, and services.
- Blue Print for Santa Fe-Sierra Club sponsored town layout for sustainability, codes have to change for flexibility. (to be unveiled in a month or two).
- Small home (1200sf), lots of neighbors, but privacy, emphasis on creativity and spirit of the place, how people interact. Giving Amenities, Getting a Greater Sense of Community.
- Creative class housing, welcoming for creative, affordable, cross fertilization of creative, place for jam sessions, gathering to just play music, small rehearsal halls, less and non toxic building.
- Linking of houses with jobs.

### **Sizes of yard, gardening space**

The sharing included folks speaking about the size of yard they would like, how much gardening area. Answers were 12' x12' size of a bedroom. 4x8' but part of a bigger yard. 2 Pots anymore and they die of neglect. A good sized room. A 20'x30' Greenhouse. A beautiful small private courtyard and a bigger shared one. A 25 x 40' private yard and a smaller entry garden.

### **Profit Sharing- an Example from a Cohousing in California**

Brian gave a report on the FrogSong Cohousing in Cotati, about their experience of shared ownership of 6000sf of Commercial (7 businesses) with two floors of lofts (7 units) above, with a total of 30 residential units.

### **Next Steps- Making it Real!**

The meeting concluded with a general agreement we should now take a site or two and design two neighborhoods that held our vision, so we could then give city bureaucrats informed guidance on zoning and

regulations changes necessary to support Sustainable Neighborhoods. Planned neighborhoods will also show how our ideas will work out financially and logistically.

We selected one site on Alameda, just west of the Old Market Place Grocery, a 7-acre site that is up for redevelopment once the existing residents are relocated (“a slow process”). Oshara Village, on Richard’s Ave, near the Community College is our second site, as Phase II has land that is open to modification of the lot lines.

**Roy and Brian’s Proposal- Small Design Charettes leading to a Master Planning Charette for the Two Sites.**

The next day, Roy and Brian got together and began to rough out a proposal of how this part of the Project might proceed. We’ll be presenting these ideas for your consideration and as a starting place for discussion at the next meeting. See you there!!!

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