

PORTLAND TIME BANK DONATION COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Dear Friends,

As you all know, the Time Bank has held discussions for nine years about how we can be financially sustainable in an organization that operates with a complimentary currency.

For the last several months there have been meetings of the board, staff and then a member committee to talk about revenue that would support PTB's operating costs. In March the committee made a unanimous decision and recommended that all members be invited to make a modest, annual donation in terms of both service and cash.

The service donation would be two hours a year of helping with office work, a fundraiser, an event, phone calls, *or any other means that is comfortable and of the member's choice*. ALL services help the infrastructure and many, many members already contribute time to bulk mailings, reception work, booths at fairs and other ways. The impact of this labor helps with the division of work and gives staff the opportunity to focus on services, cultivate business partnerships and respond to individual member needs. Most importantly, working for the PTB is about our mission for community building.

The second issue of cash donations is equally important. The justification for this came from basic math. It costs \$25.00 per person to pay for a member identification card, member directory, quarterly newsletters and the administrative time to enter data in Timekeeper. Donations in that amount will offset the costs and keep the lights on in our organization....

Of course, this is voluntary. Yes, members can sponsor other members or make donations in larger amounts too, just as they can donate time dollars to the Social Capital Fund. And it's good to remember that cash donations are tax deductible.

This new policy will take place June 1st for new members; September 1st for existing members. If you have questions about this, please contact Robin by phone or email.

Thank you!