

ing it next year to weekly concerts.

Another participant added an artists' component to the concerts, *Artists in the Park*, organizing local artists to set up easels, paint during that afternoon, and display their other paintings. Those visiting the park watch them paint and enjoy seeing their other finished works.

Another point mentioned in a brainstorming session was that our single adults, mostly newcomers and professionals, are having a hard time finding their social niche. A participant organized a Singles Group intended to capitalize on the reasons they found their way here, mostly outdoor activities, and hopes it will also develop into volunteer groups to meet needs within Oatry.

A Sense of Community: A considerable number of individuals have mentioned to the coordinator that participation in this group on a weekly basis helped them feel they

It was important that leaders in key organizations and businesses stuck with the group as it formed a plan and ... agenda.

were a part of the community for the first time, that it was the first vehicle to cause them to productively interact with their counterparts.

Conclusion

Probably due to a variety of reasons, CommUNITY seems to have become a recognized part of Oatry.

Among some, the timing and the environment of its creation led to suspicion that this organization was designed as a detriment or challenge to other organizations. This sense is lessening, but there are still some voids in consent and participation. The coordinators and participants have worked hard to be seen as a catalyst for new or different activity, a support for existing organizations, and a forum to comfortably express or explore new ideas. It was important that key leaders in critical organizations and businesses, the newspaper, and government leaders stuck with the group as it formed a plan and proceeded to a workable agenda. The direction and confidence of those community leaders has helped create an entity that seems to be working well...and is drawing attention from others as a model potentially suitable for their communities. ■