



Cohousing Now! #59: Endings and Beginnings

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Tue, Oct 29, 2013 at 10:17 AM

from Rebecca

Dear Cohousers & Friends,

I have submitted my resignation to the Board of the Cohousing Association, effective 1 November. This decision has been in process for some time. As many of you know, I spent much of my spring and summer in treatment for uterine cancer. I'm happy to have had a relatively straightforward journey thus far, and to be cancer free, while I undergo regular monitoring for the next five years. As often happens, facing a serious illness gives one pause, and when I was recruited into a dynamic Seattle based organization, I said yes.

The Board will be in touch regarding a long term organizational transition plan. In the meantime, Operations Manager Michelle Rasa will be the day-to-day management. As a virtual organization, Coho/US has many amazing volunteers around the country who keep it going. These lovely people will continue to support operations, and I thank them for this! Coho/US and I have both grown tremendously over the last two and a half years. I'm excited about the initiatives moving forward, especially the regional model, the website re-design, and the membership initiative. I have every confidence in the Board to work to sustain the Association, and move it into a 21st century, multi-cultural organization. The Board has moved into fundraising well, and its dedication to cohousing is a great strength. Coho/US is in very good hands.

I also have had the great delight of making good friends all throughout the country, which I know I'll sustain as I move into this new professional phase. I remain an ardent advocate of cohousing. Please stay in touch with me via my personal [email:reblane@gmail.com](mailto:reblane@gmail.com).

I've accepted a position at ACT Theatre, a nationally known contemporary theatre with a stellar reputation. I am serving as the Campaign & Development Manager. It's an exciting & very challenging position. I'll be learning new areas of non-profit fundraising and development, managing a big capital campaign, while providing my family with what we need to rebuild from the impacts of my medical journey this year.

I'm working with a long time colleague & friend who brought me in to support her vision as the Development Director, and the potential is tremendous. I will also be managing major giving and planned giving once the campaign is wrapped. Heck, I even bought a gala gown this week! Working in the arts again is very joyful. If you plan a trip to Seattle, please let me know so I can take you to a show at ACT!

Onward!
 Warmly,
 Rebecca

The Wisdom of Group Decisions

Gratitude

In principle, gratitude is all about attitude. Gratitude is a choice we make to see good in ourselves, our situation and the people around us.

Discontent arises in me when there is a gap between what I have and what I want. When the gap is large, I am apt to try to close it by getting what I want. Advertisers know this, so they breed discontent. They try to persuade me that what I have is not good enough, and if I just had more and better stuff, I would be happy. Similarly, I am sometimes seduced into thinking that people around me are not good enough and that if they would just change their behaviors, I would be happy.

It is okay to want things to be better, but it is not okay to put down ourselves, our situation or our group in order to justify selfish behavior. A person lacking gratitude is likely to be a drag on good group decisions.

Sometimes getting what we want leads to happiness, but the surer way to close the gap of discontent is to look with gratitude upon that which we already have.

Practical Tip: Take stock of what you have and see the good in yourself, your situation and your group. Imagine how things could be worse. Reach out and help someone less fortunate. Say thank you.

Coho/US blogs

- [NE Summit and Open House Tours a Success!](#)
 From - Laura Fitch, NE summit chair and board member of CohoUS

Wow - we did it! Cohousing enthusiasts came together on Sept 28th in Cambridge MA to network and learn from each other and our outstanding presenters. Existing communities learned more about work systems, maintenance of facilities, getting along and aging well together. New folks and forming...

- [Great news! Website revamp getting underway](#)
 I'm excited to announce that we've kicked off the project to revise and update cohousing.org. (And there was much rejoicing!)

I'd love to hear from you - What information or resources do you use on the cohousing.org website today? What do you wish was there that you can't find? What do...

[More Cohousing Blogs](#)

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Cohousing Events

- OR [Cohousing takes off in PDX. McCamant to speak freely](#)
 US [FREE Cohousing Event Listings in Community Events section of Tours & Events page](#)

Cohousing Groups For Seniors

- CA [Wolf Creek Lodge: Move in Now to Senior Cohousing!](#)

Cohousing Groups Seeking New Members

- NY [Food, fun, play and ease!](#)
 OR [Come Home to Neighborly Living!](#)
 TN [TN's first cohousing community is now under construction](#)
 WA [Our Community is expanding - Please join us](#)

Cohousing Homes for Sale

- CA [TOWN HOME for Sale at OAK CREEK COMMONS, Paso Robles, CA](#)
 CA [Spacious and sunny loft unit available in accessible urban cohousing community](#)
 CA [Delightful Home in Nevada City Cohousing](#)
 CO [4BR 3BA Harmony Village Home, in the foothills of Golden, Colorado](#)
 MA [Looking for affordability? 3 Income-restricted homes at Mosaic Commons](#)
 OR [Sunny, 2nd floor 2BR spacious Condo in beautiful Pacific NW](#)
 VT [Eco Friendly Community & Farm in Vermont's Green Mountains](#)

Cohousing Publications for Sale

- CA [New release from McCamant & Durrett Architects](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

- US [Non-profit Governance Opportunity](#)

Featured Professionals

Connecting with Cohousing Professionals is easy with our Cohousing Professionals [Directory](#) webpage. Interested in getting listed below? You'll find more information [here](#), or contact [Barb Bansenauer](#), our Advertising Manager to find out more.

- [Bryan Bowen Architects, p.c.](#)
- [The Cohousing Company: McCamant & Durrett Architects](#)
- [Cohousing Partners, LLC & Wonderland Hill Development Company](#)
- [Kraus Fitch Architects, Inc](#)

Cohousing In The News (from Google)

- [Growth in Strathmore - Strathmore Standard](#)
- [BRIDPORT: Plans to build sustainable homes to be discussed - View Online](#)
- [Carnival marks Southside Park Cohousing's 20th anniversary - Sacramento Bee](#)

[more](#)

Thanks for reading

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