# Forwarded below is my communication with Spencer Veale over the past week. I would like to put this on our agenda for our next OC meeting. Toward that end, please give it all a read before then (read from the bottom up to get the messages chronologically). I am certain it will be a topic in my meeting(s) in Berlin next week with Joseph Huber, Lino Zeddies of Monetative, and, I hope, Brandi Geurkink (an American living in Berlin who is one of IMMR's two new part-time coordinators for IMMR). Thanks, Lucille PS: The only surprise for me in Spencer's reply was that Delman Coates is funding his website development. Should I follow up with Rev. Coates about this, or do one of you want to? Maybe Joe? As I think I told you all, Delman had told me (in a set of emails we exchanged after he replied to my 12/4 email with our Call for an AMIers' conference call) that Spencer had recently visited him and that he (Rev) thought we should join forces w/ PM. But he didn't say anything about him funding Spencer's effort to do so. He is, of course, free to do so. I imagine he may also play a positive role in helping us to forge a collective organizational path for MR in the US. Or perhaps I'm just imagining things...what some would call fantasizing, others wishful thinking, others prayer. -----Original Message----- From: Eckrich, Lucille Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 9:35 PM To: Spencer Veale Subject: RE: Check in Thanks for the reply, Spencer. It is absurd for us to be working separately or from multiple organizational fronts, so I sincerely hope and pray we figure out--and soon--a way to work together for MR in the US. I suspect neither of us fully knows right now what that way will be, nor is it up to just us. But where there's a will, a collective good will, there's a way. If we keep open and pursue that will as honestly and wisely as we can, I believe we will find our organizational way to MR in the US. We have to. In solidarity with ongoing communication, Lucille -----Original Message----- From: Spencer Veale [mailto:j.spencer.veale@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2018 4:24 PM To: Eckrich, Lucille Subject: Re: Check in Hi Lucille, Happy New Year, and I’m sorry things didn’t go the way you’d hoped with AMI. First, I’d like to hear more about the outreach efforts you guys hope to engage in. If what you are looking for is an organizational home, the organization I’ve been working on establishing may be able to provide you with that. We have the content for our site largely done. Delman is now paying for us to have a professional web designer upgrade the site as well as to get Positive Money’s videos adapted for an American audience. Positive Money’s videos of course have been their most effective outreach tool by far, so we are excited to have American versions of them for our site. It’s too bad things have played out the way they have. If not for Stephen’s resistance to joining IMMR, I’m sure I never would have set out to set up another organization. However, now that I am 2 and a half years in and have well-developed content for the site, some good partners and some funding, as well as relationships with the IMMR core group and have been the contact person for everyone that has contacted IMMR about setting up a US affiliate, I’m far enough down this path that I think it’s pretty clear that this organization will be the IMMR US affiliate. I just checked with the IMMR core group and they understand that it is preferable that there is only one affiliate per country and that it would be pulling the rug out from under me to make another organization the IMMR affiliate given that we are at such an advanced stage in the development of the organization. I hope this isn’t too much of a disappointment to you and I hope we can accommodate you as an organizational home for your outreach efforts. Our intent is to be such a home for monetary reform activists across the country and provide tools and support for activists to help advance the cause of monetary reform in whatever ways best suit them. Given this I think it is very possible we should be able to serve as that organizational home to you and those you’ve been working with to set up another organization. So, my question is, what do you want and need from us to be content with using us as your organizational home? My biggest concern is that we are pretty close to getting the organization formally established and a professional site published, so if you guys want to redo everything we’ve done then that would be a big setback which I’d want to avoid as much as possible. This said, I will try to accommodate you guys as much as I can and think is reasonable. Thanks, Spencer

# On Dec 30, 2017, at 9:51 AM, Eckrich, Lucille <lteckri@ilstu.edu> wrote: Hi Spencer. Good to hear from you. Yes, there are developments, both in our organizational future (which is what I assume you are inquiring about) and in our monetary reform (MR) outreach work, including some growing out of our involvements in the Democracy Convention and with Rev. Coates. Our organizational development has gone slower than we'd like, but we have been working steadily and, as of 11/7, very actively on it, though even now things are still in the early-development stage. More specifically, as you know from our conversations last Feb/March and at AMI this past Sept, some AMIers have been actively working together on our organizational future since Sept 2016, starting with a meeting that Stephen and Jamie initiated at the 2016 AMI conference to solicit our advice. While we talked over the next year about alternatives, we hoped and mainly worked for this future to be possible through growing AMI into the movement-building educational, research, advocacy, and action organization we need to bring about MR in the public interest. But it became clear to us in a 10/26/17 announcement from the AMI Board that this would not be possible. Instead of Stephen's death being an opportunity for the trustees to expand the board so AMI could expand its focus, revise its bylaws, and become an inclusive, transparent, and democratic movement-building organization for MR, the trustees decided to keep AMI as is--namely, a MR research/think tank with a three-person board. The only change was to institute an annual membership fee that allows for participation in AMI activities and the use of AMI's name in members' publication bylines. They encouraged the ad hoc advisory committee and others who want to be involved in more than a MR think tank to form another organization, separate from but cooperative with AMI "until the ultimate goal of monetary reform is achieved." This decision was a surprise to some of us, a disappointment to all of us, and disruptive for the MR outreach work we were in the midst of, as it seemed we no longer had an organizational home, which some (though not all) of that outreach work needed us to have. Thus, amidst those ongoing outreach efforts, one of us wrote up a CALL to form an "Organizing Committee" tasked with putting together a plan for an alternative MR organization. He emailed that CALL on 11/7 to the 19 AMIers who had received AMI's 10/26 announcement. On 12/4 we sent a follow-up email to the wider group of active AMIers (36, including those who had received the CALL) to inform every one of the trustees' 10/26 announcement and our 11/7 CALL, and to invite them to participate in a conference call to discuss our organizational future. That conference call took place for 2.5 hours on 12/10 with 18 participants. It resulted in the formation of an Organizing Committee and a second committee to brainstorm and work on website matters including some developments simultaneously going on related in part to AMI's website and to educational modules for our outreach work. So, that basically brings you up-to-date with our "developments." The Organizing Committee met for the first time on 12/28, the day after you emailed me. We have some individual assignments and are in the process of scheduling our next meeting 10-14 days from now. Our goal is to have an organizational plan developed to share with the larger group by April. It is too early for me to know whether we will meet this time frame and how things will develop, because it is an organic, difficult, and striving-to-be-a democratic process. I trust that little, if any, of this is a surprise to you, as it was already in process the first time we spoke. I shared then that I thought AMIers would either reformulate AMI or form something new. The simultaneity of your efforts with what we had and have going on is a serendipity that both makes sense--given the escalating damaging effects of our flawed monetary system that all suffer but too few grasp the systemic causes of--and that offers you and us opportunities to collaborate as we find our way(s) forward to build an effective movement for MR. Personally, I hope we can find ways to work together and/or to complement each other's work. There is a great need for much more, not less, educating, organizing, and advocating for MR in the US! I would welcome an update from you about your MR efforts, intentions, and whereabouts, which I'd be happy to share with the Organizing Committee if you'd like me to. I did tell them you had just emailed me and that I would be replying. I also heard a few weeks ago from Rev Coates that you visited him, so I wonder if you are back in the States now (when we met in Sept I thought you said you were headed to a job somewhere in South America). I myself am in Europe right now visiting family in London and Germany. I took or will take the opportunity to meet with monetary reformers both places, something I've been planning to do in Germany for over a year now. There are exciting developments in Europe and elsewhere. I am hopeful that you and we can soon achieve such progress in the US and the Americas, eventually leading to MR at home and everywhere. We definitely view whatever we do in the US as a parallel organization to PM, Ons Geld, Monetative, etc., and intend to become active in IMMR, something all of us had wanted AMI to do, but to no avail. Thanks for getting in touch. Let's stay in touch. I'd be happy to Skype if you rather talk than type your update. But for me, it seemed more effective to write than talk right now, since I don't yet know what our Organizing Committee will come up with. If or when I have further developments to share, I'll contact you. For now, I just want to wish you and yours a Happy New Year or, as all say in Germany right now, "Gute Rutsh" (Good slide into the New Year)! ~~Lucille -----Original Message----- From: Spencer Veale [mailto:j.spencer.veale@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2017 6:47 PM To: Eckrich, Lucille Subject: Check in Hey, I hear there have been some developments with you guys. Would you like to schedule a call sometime soon? Spence