

ORSC Steering Committee Minutes
September 9, 2013 at 4pm Conference Room, ORHS

1. Call to Order 4:05pm Dennis Harrington, Doris Demers, John Carroll, Barry Kaplan, Sarah Larson-Dennen, Nell Neal, Maria Barth, Cristina Dolcino, Mary Caulfield, Maggie Morrison, Sue Caswell (late)
2. Welcome/Introductions
3. Preliminary Actions
 - a. Approval of Agenda - John approved, Nell second, all approved
 - b. Approval of Minutes of August 19, 2013 St. Comm. Meeting - John approved, Nell second, all approved
 - c. Approval of Minutes of July 23, 2013 St. Comm. Meeting - Barry approved, Dennis second, all approved
 - d. Correspondence/News - Maria announced that about 2 weeks ago her 1800 year old barn burned down. No animals died. Support was offered for when rebuilding takes place in the future.
4. Public Comments No public was present.
5. Update of Green Teams
 - a. Initiatives at each school:
HS

Maggie - Announced that Jon Bromley has started to get the compost-recycling program up and running in the HS Cafeteria. Katie and Emily (HS Green Team leaders) have interest in further making the use of the program more of the norm than the exception. Behavioral change seems to be a little tricky and they have ideas to make inroads.

John C. - Asked about including the senior core also in the program. The compost/recycling program also represents money savings... it is a real practical attitude.

Maria - the more the initiatives can be tied to money and education would be great. Help the students get the real picture of why sustainability is important to them now.

Maggie - focus on helping "local" community to validate these practices

Nell - Suggested asking Rian Bedard, Mr. Fox Composting, to come in to explain the process

John - Wondering if the green image and instead focus of money savings to the District is the way to go with HS students

John C. - Developing a list of "pickers" to harvest the gardens in the school gardens so things can be processed when they are ready.

Maggie- Straws in the cafeteria are the vain of Rian's existence. Doris will look into decreasing the use of straws in the schools.

Dennis - wondering about why we have to use the little packets of catsup, mustard... Doris will look into what can be done about them

Doris - She will be buying plates for the HS and not trays. These can then be used when catering takes place

MOH- composting-recycling is underway in café. Cyd will be providing information about the Moose, maple, melting snow issues that are related to sustainability. Apples in the back of the school are going to be harvested and used. Some classroom planting has been done for instruction and possible use in the cafeteria.

MW- The Green Team committee is beginning to be formed with Maggie.. It is anticipated that the major theme at the school will be around water. Collaboration with other schools to accomplish joint initiatives has been discussed with one possible initiative being a "Power down" of electrical equipment during holidays/vacations. It seems that various individuals/initiatives are already underway at the school and new projects are of interest.

MS - Mary is working on getting contacts for a GreenTeam. Emails have been sent to inform staff and answer questions but response/engagement has been slow possibly due to it still being the beginning of the year. One area that seems to stand some help is recycling-compost program so it is followed with more accuracy and effectiveness by the students in the cafeteria (e.g., a recycling and trash buckets looked the same). Sustainable initiatives/instruction are incorporated into instruction currently by some staff. Possible involvement during a staff/administration meeting may help explain the roll of the Green Team in the School, how the team can be formed, and the importance of supporting sustainability instruction/projects.

Communication between parents and the Green Team leaders was discussed. This included the idea of writing a "Green Team" Newspaper yet not sure about how it could be distributed and be read by parents ... emailed, hard copied?

Dennis suggests that the Sustainability Policy be used as the way to help get folks onboard with sustainable initiatives.

John - Asked that the initial Green Team members from each school be identified at the next Steering Committee meeting.

Maria - suggested the Durham Friday Updates and Lee Crier since 80% of the District do not have children in the Schools.

Sue - Jim Rozycky (District's new "Seamen's" employee) for a contact for the MS recycling program. Sue is meeting with Jim on the 10th to talk more about this project.

Nell suggested having Rian from Mr. Fox Composting to come in to present the program to MS. Nell and Maria both wondered how people can be educated on the relevance of sustainability in one's life and behaviors.

6. Discuss of the process and protocol for goal setting by subcommittees/Green teams at our next full ORSC meeting on Sept. 25th.

Work Session Steps:

- Each subcommittee meets with the individuals interested in that area.
- Each subcommittee reflects on the past goals to determine which have been achieved or if each goal is still relevant.

- Each subcommittee forms approximately 3-4 goals that will be worked on over 1 year and also 2 year goal periods.
- 30 minutes will be allotted for the work session.
- A "Share Out" by each subcommittee, to the full ORSC, will then take place.

Nell - Stated that in the past the Subcommittees independently made the goals but now with Green Teams is involved in our work. How will they be incorporated?

It was suggested that GT members attend the individual subcommittee work session that best fits the goal.

* It was also suggested that each subcommittee chair have their past goals on hand for the meeting should questions are asked

*Each sub-committee should send the last set of goals to the Green Team members.

Cristina - She will review the SMART acronym prior to the work session for use by subcommittees

*Nell - Strongly suggested that each subcommittees meet before the 9/25th meeting so individuals can preview past goals and prepare for the full meeting.

- i. Dennis- In August met with Mark Millikan, Paula Salvio, and other individuals from the UNH Sustainability Institute. These individuals are educators from around the state. They are working to develop curriculum around sustainability as they continuing sustainability work in their Districts. They are asking to observe our work and be given a little time to present their work/interests.

7. Intern applications

Shelley emailed Cristina to report there were no applications submitted at the end of the summer. The deadline was extended to the end of September

8. New Business

- a. Doris- The First Harvest Dinner will be on Thursday, October 3, 2013
- b. It was suggested to have two seatings at 5:30pm and 7:00pm at the ORHS cafeteria. It was priced out for 150 people but some feel more will attend since the entire District and Town citizens are welcome to attend. As much food will be prepared as the tickets purchased. Menu to date: Beef stew in a roll is wanted, vegie stew, roasted vegies, salad, ice cream? Local products/produce will be purchased for the meal.

A presentation to celebrate the efforts of bringing more Local Foods into the ORCS will be given.

Tim Kenaley - manager of ORHS cafeteria will work along with Doris.

An online ordering planner will hopefully be used to preorder tickets

Farmers who provide produce to ORSCD will be invited to enjoy a free meal

The next planning meeting is on Thursday, Sept. 19th HS cafeteria
Anyone interested in helping is invited to attend.

- c. Update on Strategic Planning Committee (Academic Engagement) and sustainability statement
John submitted the documents reviewed by members of ORSC.

9. Public Comments - No public present

10. Future Steering Meeting dates

Monday, October 21, 2013 ORHS Conference Room 120 (tentative room location)

11. Future Full ORSC Meetings typically at 7pm at the ORHS

September 25, 2013

Nov. 13, 2013

January 8, 2014 (snow date January 9)

March 12, 2014

May 14, 2014

12. Closing Actions

- a. Agenda planning for next meeting

UNH Sustainability Institute - observation and short presentation of their work and short presentation by UNH graduate, Jennifer on her work on arable farmland promoting deforestation.

- b. Update on Harvest Dinner

- c. Updates on Green Team

Other- nothing

13. Adjournment 5:45