

ORSC Steering Committee Minutes
Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 4:45pm Durham Public Library

Present: Maggie Morrison, Mary Caulfield, Nell Neal, Cristina Dolcino, Ed Charle, Mark Milliken, Brian Taetzsch, Dennis Harrington (late)

I. Call to Order 4:54 motion: Cristina second: Mary

II. Welcome/Introductions- not necessary

III. Preliminary Actions

1. Approval of Agenda: motion: second:

2. Approval of Minutes: Steering meeting Tuesday, December 2, 2014

motion: Maggie second: Nell Approved

Steering meeting Tuesday, December 8, 2014

motion: Maggie second: Nell Approved

3. Correspondence/News- none

IV. Public Comments- None

V. Old Business

1. Update of Foss Manufacturing "Plastic bottles collection project" - a meeting with Mark and the Foss representatives will be taking place on the 1-30th. Mark will share our comments from today and our 1-8-14 Steering meeting.

Maggie will ask Carrie at MW to see if the school would like to be involved with the pilot Foss initiative project.

We may want to develop a tool to decide in OUR District how WE think the Foss Initiative is going. Use compost "evaluation" system as a guide.

Are there really a lot of #1 bottles in our classrooms? Maggie is going to do some checking at MW to see how many bottles are used there.

Get from Foss an idea of the numbers of bottles they need to make the pilot project effective... maybe we are not the "right" District to use if we don't use enough bottles??

Include Jim Rozycki into the loop and ask him to attend the meeting with Mark and Foss reps.

What is our ultimate goal?... To get plastic out of the waste stream. If we don't allow bags of bottles on the buses then students can only bring bottles to school that fit in their backpacks. Bottles will be collected outside of school in some manner.

Bringing bottles in BAGS will need to be brought to schools by parents who drive over and drop off. Bags of bottles can't be brought to school on the buses.

Collecting bottles from athletic and afterschool events.....is this encouraging the purchasing of more bottles?

2. Green Team Leaders Update

Stolworthy Land Meeting - 8 people last week about the Stolworthy property and the adjacent land owner Rob Sullivan were present.

Discussion focused on how the land could be used. Teachers from the MS and HS use this land

for science, LA, social studies topics primarily.

MS- teachers use the land for water study

Ellen Synder has been hired by Town of Durham as a consultant to do Property "notebook"

A land management plan/Property Management Plan will be developed that will include:

How can this land be used more as an outdoor classroom?

Jon Bromley talked with Vin Dell'ova to have HS students make a presentation to the

Conservation Commission about topics of the Stolworthy/adjacent land beside HS

Middle schoolers could make signage for the Stolworthy/adjacent land

Teachers from OR who currently use this area will continue to use land for instruction.

Establishing the District's science standards would be helpful... identifying a sustainability thread across the grades would be key

GT leaders reported that the Power Down went well... waiting to get bills from PSNH for Thanksgiving and Christmas time periods.

At the MS the custodians said only a few things were left on.

MW classrooms were checked and it was discovered that unplugging projector (ceiling) of Promethean Boards may not be prudent if it requires IT adjustment later on when plugged back in.

All school received snacks made supplied by GT and ORSC members to support their Power Down efforts. Mark said HS teachers were appreciative.

Jim R. continues to give Mary the Triano numbers so data from the Fall will be available soon.

MS- "Green Bean" Club- At the concert last night at HS with table for MS "Green Bean" recruitment. At the MS "Green Bean" Club meeting 2 new students attended. A mural is being painted by "The Makery" downtown in Durham. Consider asking the Art Club at the MS for their input/designing help

Other project ideas... Tote bags decorated with "green" logos and made by Green Bean members.

MW- Meeting with Jim R, MW teachers, parents, minister with church about Rain garden will take place soon. This project will help improve the MW parking lot situation - when it rains and the parking lot turns into a "lake." The rain garden will "absorb" some of this water so it pools less on the asphalt.

HS- Two Igors at HS will be rolled out on 27th. Signage made by the Sus Club is ready. Cyd is working on getting pictures/story for the special event.

Mary/Mark will work on getting ice cream bars handed out to students who participate to help support a sense of celebration in the establishment of a new habit. Mark will work on getting some oversight with the HS students helping fellow students correctly sort recycling-compost-trash

Brian mentioned the HS Sus Club is strong with several initiatives. About 20 students attend.

Jan 27th with HS administration and GT leaders to discuss next steps... How are we doing?
How are the interactions with all the "players" in the HS (athletics, admin, teachers, students). Checking in to make sure everyone is onboard with similar goals.

"Get to Know" Events- Durham Public Library- Community Educational Outreach. Trifolds and information available. No one from the public came to the event on 1-15 that was offered by Maggie and Mary. Cristina will offer another event tonight.

3. Update of Community Dinner and Fed Up movie - January 8, 2015

GREAT evening ALL around!

Broad demographic of attendees... approx.. 200 people came for the dinner

Movie-80 visitors stayed for the entire movie. Approx. 25 people remained for the panel discussion of UNH student on panel discussion with the lead support of Professor _____

One comment mentioned was-"Why did you pick "that" problem?" The movie focused on obesity, sugar consumption, nutrition, the food industry... "Why not problems that relate to us like air quality?"

Other comments: It was good to be reminded of how important food selection is in regards to nutrition/health.

Next Year? Start now to select dates now for 2015-2016 for a film festival at the ORHS ...

Maybe start on

Friday night (Keynote/expert introduction, then the movie, followed by a panel discussion) and then continue into Saturday afternoon 11-4pm

Possibly offer a Community Dinner on Friday night

Movie possibility: Divide and Conquer. Look into a late January time for 2016.

Mary will get a list of movies to consider from her friend.

4. Production Gardens- there is a high probability that there will be a production

Soil analyzed,,, treatment... manure... planted and managed by all District parents over the summer and used in the school kitchens.

3. Other

Leticia is going to be her "capstone" project of investing other schools are weaving sustainability in the curriculum in ORCSD and in other District.

Dennis- Idea is to ask if Kathleen Young would be interested in working on a yearlong project of sustainability going on throughout the year. Taking a closer more longitudinal look at how sustainability is worked on, looks, evolving in the District... in the schools, homes, community....

VI. New Business

1. HS student visit and discussion of an idea/project- The student was not present but an update was given about how the HS "Sus" Club is moving forward with meeting with Jim Rozycki. The

HS student wants to eventually present to the School Board. An offer was made for him to attend our meeting to share his thoughts. Involvement with Sunrays- Solar investment Company (only current NH solar investment company, led by 2 past OR students) is also being considered.

2. Checking in with Initiatives determined at last Full meeting
3. Spring/Summer events?
4. Durham churches (4) with RFP to install solar installation individually OR a solar "farm"
Charlie Forcy, Durham Energy Chairman
Pre-liminary discussions with Dorn Cox and UNH about land securement in some manner has taken place.
There is another solar investment company.....Village Power (MA) is also involved in discussion
Also some discussion with Churchill Apartments involvement

VII. Public Comments- none

VIII. Future Full Meeting dates for 2014-2015 school year at ORHS Library

~~Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at 7pm~~

~~Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at 7pm~~

~~Monday, January 12 at 7pm - cancelled due to District closing afterschool activities~~

Wednesday, January 28, 2015 (snowdate)

Monday, March 9, 2015 at 7pm

Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7pm (6pm dinner)

IX. Future Steering meeting date- Not determined

X. Closing Actions

XII. Adjournment 6:33 motion: Cristina second: Nell Approved