

ORSC Full Meeting Minutes- draft  
March 23, 2016 at 7:00pm  
ORHS Library

Present: Tracy Schroeder, Shelley Mitchell, Maggie Morrison, Kristin Houle, Dan Klein, John Carroll, Barry Kaplan, Nell Neal, Dennis Harrington, Mary Caulfield, Cristina Dolcino, MaryEllen Webb, Doris Demers, Sue Caswell, Sarah Larson-Dennen

I. Call to Order 7:07pm Motion: MaryEllen Second: Tracy

II. Introductions

III. Preliminary Actions

A. Approval of Agenda: No changes motion: Cristina second: MaryEllen

B. Approval of Minutes of January 26, 2016 motion: Shelley second: Barry

C. Correspondence/Announcements: Maggie and Cristina shared current events happening in the area with the group.

IV. Public Comments – no public present

V. Expenditures and request for purchases

a. Farm to School Coordinator- 2016-17 school year – see above Sue shared that Jim R. is interested in working to hire a person to care for the landscaped gardens, May – October and that this person could help Doris with her Farm to School work. Sue C. will advertise for this. This could be a good trial to figure out a person we could hire year round to work with Doris's program. John feels this is very important and supports it. Sarah does as well. The group will spread the word. Doris is connecting with the Freeport, Maine school district to hear their experience with the program. Since this is coming out of the Facilities Dept. fund, the group does not need to vote on this but the group does support it.

b. High School gardens Coordinator - Maggie is interested in having a person hired just to work with the high school gardens. She passed around a paper explaining the responsibilities. Tracy asked what the difference between the two suggested positions is. The person working with Jim works on the gardens as well as with Doris. The person Maggie is suggesting will work just on the HS gardens and with Dori's nutrition program. Maggie suggested someone for the position who she has worked with in the past. Sarah questioned whether we need to advertise for the public to apply. The group did not think this was a problem since this was a person who has already worked in this field. This position would be from June through September with a suggested stipend of \$800.00.

**Cristina made a motion to hire Cristina Felix to be the HS garden coordinator from June through September with a stipend of \$800. Seconded by MaryEllen Webb. All in favor.**

c. High school garden supplies - Maggie shared that Estie Ott is interested in getting \$50 for seeds and soil for the HS gardens.

**Shelley makes a motion to allocate \$100 to Estie Ott, a teacher from the HS, for gardening seeds, equipment and compost to be used at the HS. Seconded by John. All in Favor.**

d. Solar water feature at the MS - Mary shared that Mr. Boucher from the MS is interested in putting a solar powered water feature in the MS garden. The cost of the fountain is \$200. The group discussed their concern that the water feature is not irrigating the garden. The group decided to shelve this for now and discuss it at the next meeting.

e. Students to a Conference - Mary is also interested in taking a group of students to the Northeast Resource Recovery Association School Recycling conference on May 17. The cost of the registration and conference \$600. Three middle school students, two adults. Maryellen suggested we send four 4<sup>th</sup> graders as well.

**Mary would like to make a motion to bring a group to the School Recycling conference in May. Second Tracy. All in favor.**

- Dennis suggested that, in the future, people who are interested in acquiring funds from the Sust. Group need to attend the meeting and present their own requests so we can ask questions of that person. Maggie suggested we set aside the March meeting in 2017 to always discuss these issues. Dennis and Dan will work on a form for people to use when submitting requests for money.
- Kristin suggested an email be sent out to teachers in the whole district to ask if they need monies for the curriculum garden.
- The compost from Mr. Fox will go the HS this spring. Nell will talk to Jim R about the location to dump it and she will touch base with Mr. Fox to find out when he will be able to deliver it.

## VI. Discussion/Updates

A. UNH Intern Update – Preliminary Ecological Footprint Project Report – Damian will share the report in May. Cristina shared an email from Damian regarding his work. (Damian’s mail update is at end of minutes.) Damian was looking for data regarding the Foss plastic bottle program. Kristin will work on this and will send it to Damian. Shelley wondered if we should be including the data regarding the ecological footprint for teachers and administrators attending conferences.

- Next year application process – Damian expressed an interest in working with the group as an intern next year, his senior year. Maggie wondered if we should work with UNH’s Capstone Project to find interns. John has a contact at UNH for this at the Natural Resources department. People who are interested in having UNH interns help them with projects should be ready to share the jobs at the May meeting.

## B. Green Team Leaders Update -

- Mary shared that the No Idling signs will be hung at the MS on Dennison Road. Tracy shared her concern for the number of people idling at the middle school and wondered if we can survey these people. Sue – we have done that already. Maggie asked how we can educate these people about idling. 4<sup>th</sup> grade barbeque in June (date to be determined) could be one event. John suggested we write a letter to town of Durham to share our concerns. Barry wondered if there is an app out there for this problem. Sue said it’s an issue for the bus coordinator trying to adjust the routes. The group discussed the safety concerns and how should we approach this. Is it the school board or our committee? Should we get a collaborative meeting together with the town, police dept. and the district to discuss this issue. Dan will bring it up at the next school board meeting.
- Kristin – shared a connection happening between the Powder Major Farm conservation land and the work Moharimet’s Maple sugaring program. Kristin is working on getting Earth Day celebrations going. The Moh Green Team is working to make the Pancake Breakfast in April more streamlined with recycling, using silverware, trays and, basically, creating less waste.
- Maggie shared that the Blue Ocean Society will meet with MW students in June.

C. ORHS Sus Club Update - HS Sus Club will be making a presentation to present to the students regarding fracking. This is in response to the recent movie shown at the high school called *Gasland*.

D. School Board Representative Update – Dan spoke about the recent elections and the positive response from the community. Dan will be with the group for another year. Looking for ways to connect the Wellness committee and the Sustainability committee. Dan wondered if the group had anything to share regarding the possible school starting time changes and linking it to sustainability. Cristina - would this effect the idling problem? Sue wondered if it will have a positive impact on how many kids ride the buses? Dennis - this could be a chance to encourage the use of busses by families. Tracy – if kids are getting up later than maybe parents will not need to drive their child to school.

E. Foss Eco-Throw Discussion regarding changes - Kristin shared that the HS bin may be moving to MW. Dennis is working on this.

#### F. Steering meeting Update

- Farm to School Proposal for short term coordinator (stipend position) – see above
- High School summer gardens coordinator (stipend position)- see above
- Educational Solar Panel initiative for Middle School – Mary spoke with Janet Martel at the MS. Still in the idea phase.
- Eco-Throw proposed change – Dennis will talk to Mark Milliken about this.
- E-Newsletter publication – Dr. Morse has approved it. Hoping it will be sent out to District families in an email. Staff will be included as well. Also it will be shared in the Durham Update. MaryEllen will find a list for the Madbury citizens.
- Facilities update – Sarah read notes that Jim shared at the Steering Committee regarding installing solar panels in the district.

#### VII. New Business (5 minutes)

- A. End of year report to School Board - Nell and Cristina present to the school board on April 20. Review/Identify important topics – Topics on the newsletter, looking for new members.
- B. New members initiative for May meeting – Cristina will attend a local winter farmers’ market to share our work and to get new members. We all will work to bring a new member to the pot luck.

#### VII . Closing Actions

- A. Approval of full meeting dates for 2015-2016 school year at ORHS Library (typically)

~~Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at 7pm~~

~~Monday, November 23, 2015 at 7pm~~

~~Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 7pm. Snowdate: Wednesday, January 27 2016~~

~~Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 7pm~~

Wednesday, May 4, 2016 at 7pm (at MOHARIMET 6pm potluck dinner and meeting)

- B. Next Steering Meeting date: The group would like Todd Allen to attend so Cristina will set the meeting date around his availability.

- C. Agenda Items for next Full meeting May 4, 2016 -

- Looking at the Green Ribbon School requirements and how we align with it.
- What funds do we need for next year?
- Can we get money for the new gardening position?
- Can we get money to pay a Sustainability Coordinator?
- How can we get Sustainability issues into the classroom/ the curriculum/ with our civics programs?
- Cristina suggested we have Todd Allen join us for a Steering Com. meeting.

**Tracy made a motion for the Steering Committee to represent the larger group to discuss the issue incorporating the principles of sustainability into the curriculum with Todd Allen. Barry Seconds the motion.**

**Discussion - Maggie this discussion and the actions associated with it may drive the importance of hiring a Sustainability Coordinator.**

**All in favor.**

Cristina will email Todd to find his availability. Nell suggested this be shared with the School Board. Dennis – let's remember that hours and hours go into changing curriculum. These things are important but they do take time.

Set dates for Full meetings for next school year – Cristina will share suggested dates for meetings for next year with Sue and Wendy (SAU office). These dates will be shared with the group later.

X. Adjournment 8:59 motion: Cristina second: Sarah

UNH Intern Damian Woodward Update- read out loud at meeting

Damian Woodard

ORSC Internship

3/23/16

### March Update on the Ecological Footprint Project

I recently met with Jim to go over the data transfer from portfolio manager to utility direct. I am in the process of transferring monthly bills from each of the district buildings into utility direct, which is much more time consuming than I had imagined. Once I am done we will be able to print reports comparing monthly energy usage as far back as January 2009 in every building in the district (Mast way, Mohariment, Oyster river middle school, Oyster River High school, SAU building). Portfolio manager cannot transfer the data for us so I have to manually type in every months bill from the past 7 years for each building which is why it is taking so long.

I am also looking to supplement the data gathered with initiatives brought forth by the committee. I have been keeping notes at each of the meetings to keep track of all of the committee's sustainable efforts. So far I have highlighted the electrically activated water, the eco-throw program, and the movies sponsored by the committee. Let me know what else you would like to add.

I am looking to have a full report done by the May meeting to present to the committee.