

ORSC Steering Committee Agenda
Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 5pm ORHS room 120

Present: Dennis Harrington, John Carroll, Mark Milliken, Dan Klein, Cristina Dolcino, Mary Caulfield, Sue Caswell, Barry Kaplan, Nell Neal, Kristin Houle, Sarah Larson-Dennen, Maggie Morrison, Doris Demers.

I. Call to Order 5:05 motion: Cristina second: Sarah

II. Welcome/Introductions

III. Preliminary Actions

1. Approval of Agenda: motion: Nell second: John

2. Approval of Minutes: Steering meeting Tuesday, June 16, 2015

motion: Barry second: John

3. Correspondence/News- John shared that the Society for Protection of N. H. Forests is interested in purchasing acreage near Moharimet in Madbury off Rt. 155. Possibly a great use for the schools. Gardens, PE classes, hiking, walking, maple sugaring, etc. Published in Forest Notes – Autumn 2015 on the last two pages.

IV. Public Comments- None

V. Expenditures for this year and reporting out process- to be shared every meeting to keep communication open.

- Money for the HS club leader will come out of Todd Allen's budget. Currently we have \$5,000 to spend.
- Maggie would like to buy aprons for mast way students \$5.50 each for 4 aprons
- Mary would like reimbursement for mileage to Maine and Mass for visits to waste energy plants last month. She would like to go to Casella Waste Systems in the future. Mary had questions about the cardboard sorting. A good question for Jim Rozycki. Casella will call Troiano Waste Services to follow up.
- Green team leaders will review their list for projects and cost and will share it at the next large group meeting. This will give the group an idea of the cost for the year.
- Maggie shared that John Bromley would love a grow table for the HS. Maybe the purchasing of this item could be considered?

VI. Old Business

1. Updates by Green Team leaders or others

- Facilities – Nell read an email update from Jim R. – email is attached at bottom of minutes.
- Child Nutritional Services: Doris – Fourth day of school and we've already purchased from five different farms, apples, tomatoes, cucumbers, onion, grass-fed beef, eggs. Apple crop is huge this year. Things are more expensive this year, especially eggs = bird flu. HS has been able to use food from the HS gardens. **Community Harvest Dinner is October 8 at the HS 5:00-6:30. \$7.00 person or \$15.00 family.** Inviting farmers to display products like we did two years ago. Possible menu: beef pot pie, local sweet potatoes. Individuals interested in helping. Mary - promotion, Kristin will contact farmers, Sarah will organize set and clean up. Doris will let Kristin know the farmers names. Jobs – Igor monitor (possible UNH students). Pumpkins and decorations on the table.
- High School – Sus Club will meet 1st time of this year on 9-9-15. Opening day of school for teachers, freshman and new students went well. These groups were able to learn about the compost process. Foss program is going well, caps have been a challenge. Foss has not picked up yet. Big wheels were attached to Igor to make it easy to move. Barry suggested at events to buy large bottles of water and fill water bottles. Cristina suggested a large cooler, plastic cups we wash and silverware being used that was purchased last spring by ORSC for "events". Mark will send out Foss information for parents from the HS and Moh. Maggie shared that a parent from Mast Way will be collecting/trucking plastic over to Moh. A reminder that this is a pilot program for HS and Moh. Hoping to include MS and MW in the future. Prep for the Bobcat Bolt has begun. Cristina suggested selling reusable mugs at the high school to encourage students not use the Styrofoam cups sold by some of the local coffee shops.
- Middle School – Parents are helping to monitor recycling/ compost. Mary is thinking about going into fifth grade classrooms to teach about Green Bean Club and answer questions about composting and recycling. Mary will talk with Middle School about using an Igor-type system in the cafeteria. Composting in classrooms is only in a few classrooms.

- Mast Way- Students are monitoring the waste system. Maggie will be going into classes to educate about the choices and consequences of recycling. There is a new system at MW for trash, compost, recycling, and paper towels. Maggie and Kristin put together a presentation to classrooms. About 50% of the classrooms will hear the presentation.
- Moharimet – Dennis shared that the Moh Green Team will be focusing on the Foss recycling program. Cookout for staff used dishes, glasses and silverware. No mess. On the other hand, the New Student Cookout produced way too much waste. Perhaps this should be monitored next year. We will look more at composting in the classroom. District is using a new copier system to reduce paper copies.

2. UNH ORSC Interns – we had three applicants. Possible foci for the interns – footprint of the District, gardens with students, media relations/Community education. Mary, Maggie, Shelley, and BrianT. (current UNH intern) will interview applicants on Sept.14th.

VII. New Business

A. Reread School Board Charge – Dan Klein spoke about the School Board’s charge for the ORSC. (see attached below). Dennis asked if the SB wants to OK our actions before we begin working on them? Dan said this may slow down the process of the group. Dan suggested the Committee look at how each project or goal relates to each Charge. Dennis suggested we work to produce a written report at the end of the year to share with public. Dan feels the written report is for the public for online viewing will help reinforce transparency (our goals and what we have done). A beginning-of-the-year report will be given to the School Board Members in their backup packet for their September 16, 2015 meeting.

B. Outline process to use for the identification of initiatives to be shared September 22 so ORSC members will leave the meeting knowing what they are working on for the year.

Movie group – Maggie suggested we show a movie to the public as part of a Community Dinner. January 28, 2016 is a tentative date (consider local concerns, not too long, panel on top of the topic). Mary is interested in showing a more practical movie to show people what they can do to help make a difference. John suggested – The Growing City – urban agriculture. Two other area groups, Seacoast Interfaith Environment Network, and the ORHS Sustainability Club may also be interested in showing movies featuring “sustainability topics” also this year.

C. Community Dinners-Tentative dates: October 8th, November 5, 2015, January 28, 2016, March 17, 2016

1. Ideas for our involvement- discussed earlier in the meeting. Kristin and Sarah will begin work for October “Harvest” Dinner.

D. District of Distinction Award – Cristina shared that our District won an award from the organization, District Administration. The award is called, District of Distinction. This national recognition program honors school districts that are leading the way with new ideas that work.

A plaque will be presented. Perhaps we should have a press release? Picture?

E. Formulate plan as to how we update the School Board- written report at end of year, goals identified under each Charge to help outline the process we will go through to accomplish or make progress with various projects

VII. Public Comments- none

VIII. Future Full ORSC Meeting dates for 2015-2016 school year. Typically takes place at the ORHS.

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 (6pm potluck dinner-meeting at Moharimet)

IX. Agenda ideas for Full ORSC meeting

X. Future Steering meeting date – October 19 5-6:30pm at the High School.

XI. Closing Actions

XII. Adjournment 6:42 motion: Sarah second: Cristina

Attachments:

From: Jim Rozycki <jrozycki@orcscsd.org>
Date: September 8, 2015 at 2:53:16 PM EDT
To: Nell Neal <nellneal2@gmail.com>
Cc: Susan Caswell <scaswell@orcscsd.org>
Subject: RE: Hi Jim!

Hi Nell,

My apologies for the extreme delay in getting these updates to you to share tonight.

- We began our organic turf fertilization effort this spring at the high and middle school athletic fields. (this first year is a "bridged" year meaning 50% organic to 50% synthetic) The pesticide for grubs was though 95% organic.
 - In July, we partnered with Modern Pest control for an all organic pest management program.
 - Mast way drainage project near completion. Plantings go in October 3rd
 - Our custodial supervisor (Jamie) has been working with Maggie on supplying smaller waste landfill receptacles to Mast Way teachers and plans the same for the Moharimet and Middle Schools. This will reduce our plastic liners going into the landfill by almost 50%.
 - We have plans to have a new cleaner/disinfectant product and machine installed at the high school next month. This will do away with 90% of our current chemicals. All natural beyond green. More to come on this.
 - Working with Joe Boucher at the middle school to move raised vegetable planters to the side of the school as opposed to out back. (water issues and too spread out).
- Future initiatives would be -
- support athletic field upgrades, further reducing landfill waste, energy reduction (upcoming CIP for new boilers at mast way and Moharimet), and sustainable custodial products and processes, to name a few.

Thanks Nell and see you soon.

Jim

Sustainability Board Appointed Committee <http://www.orcscsd.org/sustainability>

The Sustainability Committee is the newest ORCSD School Board appointed committee. The purpose of the Sustainability Committee is to facilitate a sustainability forum by working and aligning with the five principles of sustainability in the areas of food, energy, transportation, school curriculum and community outreach. The Committee will demonstrate leadership and resolve to educate community members, and advocate for sustainable living. These recommendations will meet the needs of the students, taxpayers and be fiscally responsible.

Charge:

1. Will assist the Superintendent in development, formation and implementation of 'Green Teams.'
2. Will serve as a resource to the School Board, the Administration and various Departments to implement sustainable practices to improve environmental efficiencies and reduce ecological impact at each school building, according to school district policy.
3. May assist the Food Service in the implementation of the 'Kids Eat Local' program;
4. May research, collate, and report on curriculum lessons that compliment and integrate Science Common Core and District Standards.
5. Will work to integrate sustainability initiatives directly into the line items of the school district's budget.
6. Will provide periodic summations on projects/initiatives and provide a written report at end of the school year, including any process and/or reporting recommendations for future years.

This important committee advises on District policy, procedure and sustainability efforts.

Submitted by Sarah Larson-Dennen