

HMSC Sustainability Committee

May 22, 2008

Meeting MINUTES

Members Present: Ken Hall, Judy Mullen, Tom Wainwright, Lavern Weber, Curt Whitmire

Topics Covered at Meeting:

1. Survey on topics of interest to the community for brown bag lunch speakers
2. Carpool Websites
3. Composting
4. Bike Rack Proposal
5. Federal Green Challenge
6. New Action Items

1. Information Sharing:

Ken presented the results of the survey taken at the last Sustainability Brown Bag event on April 22. The survey identified which "green" topics aroused the most curiosity among attendees. Ranking near the top were topics related to recycling -- where our recycling goes, how it gets recycled, the costs of processing it, possible improvements to the system, etc. Also ranking high was information on using green design and building materials. The survey showed less interest in biofuels than in the other two topics. Given these results, we plan to ask Rob Thompson (of Thompson's Sanitary) to come and speak at our next brown bag event in June or July.

2. Carpool Websites

Ken introduced a couple of online carpooling/ridesharing sites; perhaps one of these sites could be promoted at HMSC to help locals find rides.

The committee will experiment with these sites and decide if they would be useful for HMSC folks.

- a. *AlterNetRides:* http://alternaterides.com/welcome1.asp?location_key=

This is the site that OSU has chosen to use.

- b. *CarpoolmatchNW.org* : <http://www.carpoolmatchnw.org/>

This site may be more localized and user-friendly than the other one.

*The group also thinks it would be instructive to get someone from Lincoln County Transit to talk at a Brown Bag.

3. Composting

Ken and Randy are members of Lincoln County's Sustainability Action Committee which is promoting home gardening as part of a larger effort to develop a more locally sourced food supply for Lincoln County. The county group discussed Lincoln City's plan to purchase large community composters called *Earth Tubs* which have a 90" diameter and are manually stirred/cranked. Maybe HMSC or some of our local schools could use such a tub? Group looked at web pictures of Earth tubs at:

<http://www.gmt-organic.com/EarthTub/et-info.php>

4. Bike Rack Proposal

Jim Colbert met with Ken and Randy Walker this week to evaluate locations for installing covered bike racks at HMSC (as proposed by Jim Colbert with support of the sustainability committee). The proposal includes requests for a covered rack near south side of Bldg. 900, a bike rack under the kiosk in the VC parking lot, and a bike box in central location. The proposal will now go to Dr. Boehlert.

5. Federal Green Challenge

Curt Whitmire introduced the *Federal Green Challenge* which encourages federal agencies to "set a goal of at least a 5% reduction in the next year in two of the four challenge focus areas (Energy, Transportation, Waste, Water). First a baseline usage must be established; then results must be measured at year's end. The goal is to reduce the carbon footprint of federal agencies.

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/ECOCOMM.NSF/Federal+Green+Challenge/FedGreen> <

6. Action Items:

- a. Committee members will look at the carpool websites to help decide if one should be promoted at HMSC.
- b. Lavern will call Rob Thompson to ask if he can speak about the waste stream at a brown bag meeting in June or July.

Potential future topics/speakers:

Can someone from Lincoln County Transit talk at a Brown Bag?