

HMSC Sustainability Committee Meeting November 4th, 2008

Members Present: Anjanette Baker, Devin Brakob, Todd Cross, Ken Hall, Judy Mullen, Sharon Nieukirk, Jay Peterson, Tom Wainwright, Randy Walker, Curt Whitmire

Topics:

Meeting time change

Brownbag Speaker for November and

PUD/ Efficiency Services Group

OSU Greenhouse Gas Inventory

Review of other university sustainability websites

Transportation: Choosing a Rideshare website for HMSC; Bus service to the Corvallis Worm Bin

Regular Meeting Time Change

The group agreed to have regular meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 10am.

Next meeting: December 2nd, 10am, Library Seminar Room.

Brownbag Lunch Speakers

Sharon is still waiting to hear if Chris Diamond can be our November brownbag speaker. If she can't confirm him within a couple of days, Ken will ask Dann Cutter if he can speak in November about the new E-Waste Law. We hope to have the brownbag on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, November 18th.

Other potential speakers: Michael Davis (off the grid), Brandon Trelstad (OSU Sustainability Coordinator), Paul Rich and Mark Sleight (Central Lincoln PUD's Efficiency Services Group, in Salem)

Devin Brakob contacted the Efficiency Services Group (888-883-9879) in Salem to ask if they provide speakers. Two speakers may be available for our January or February brownbag. **Mark Sleight** (997-3414) has specific information about tax and energy rebate programs, while **Paul Rich** (997-3414) can do a basic walk-through of private homes to highlight energy conservation possibilities. They generally visit the coast the last week of the month. Perhaps interested homeowners can sign up at the January brownbag to have a walk-through evaluation in February.

Action: Devin will try to schedule Mark Sleight for our January brownbag and Paul Rich for February.

Greenhouse Gas Inventory

Ken Hall reported that all colleges and universities in the OUS system have a mandate from the state to participate in Oregon's emissions reduction plan. HMSC was not included in OSU's previous greenhouse gas inventory, but its contributions are being counted in 2008 and later years. The emissions calculation is based on usage of electricity, natural gas, and fuels in all OSU buildings and operations, plus emissions from solid waste disposal and mission-related travel and daily commutes for OSU staff and students over the past year. In the future, calculations may also include the indirect emissions of purchased goods and services.

Ken is heading up this effort and will be gathering data from gas and electric bills for OSU buildings during the last fiscal year; Sharon Nieukirk has volunteered to help synthesize the data and to work with Hollis on data for the Barry Fisher Bldg. Facilities Manager Randy Walker said it is possible to identify and separate the amount of usage from HMSC housing, the library (Bldg 909), the Visitor Center (Bldg. 900), and from the heat pump. He also says there are separate bills for NOAA, OSU and Ships at port—each agency pays their own electric bill. The pumphouse at EPA is more complicated, however, because it is shared by OSU and EPA. Randy says that getting an annual baseline figure for water usage will be a bit more difficult.

Randy also mentioned that students from OSU's Engineering program will spend time between December and March assessing energy efficiency of the seawater system at HMSC.

Actions: Ken will work on entering data and calculating emissions for gas and electric.
Sharon will help Ken and also work with Hollis.

Sustainability Website for HMSC

Since one of our goals is to create an HMSC Sustainability website, Devin Brakob assessed some of the websites of other universities. We are looking for a rich but simple template or format to use and wanted examples. Devin concluded that UO and OSU both had excellent websites, and that the University of Pennsylvania and Duke University also do. By comparison, the UW and Harvard websites were not as good models.

OSU: <http://oregonstate.edu/sustainability/>

UO: <http://sustainability.uoregon.edu/>

Duke: <http://www.duke.edu/sustainability/>

Transportation

1. Choosing a Carpool/Rideshare Website for HMSC

The committee continues to assess rideshare websites that might work for HMSC staff and students. We want to choose one and promote it.

a. OSU has chosen AlterNetRides

http://www.alternetrides.com/welcome1.asp?location_key=311102148

This site supports regular carpooling and is robust but not easy to use.

b. Google Calendar: <http://www.google.com/intl/en/googlecalendar/overview.html>

Can we make repeating events here? Can it be filtered?

c. Multiply.com: <http://hmsctest.multiply.com/calendar>

Action: Committee members will try out these sites so we can choose one to promote soon.

2. Bus Service

Anjanette informed the group that the **Coast to Valley Express** runs between Newport and Corvallis every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. It costs \$7.00 one way and leaves Newport City hall at 8:30am, returning from Corvallis at 3:30pm. This bus will drop passengers off wherever they need to go in Corvallis. Call to reserve a space. 541-265-4900 (Includes a transfer stop at Blodgett)

The **Valley Retriever** is another bus line that runs between Newport and Corvallis for

\$14.00 one way.

Departs Newport at 6:00am and 4:30 pm, arriving at Corvallis at 7:10am and 5:40pm

Departs Corvallis at 2:55pm and 11:30pm, arriving at Newport at 4:05pm and 12:40am.

Doublecheck times by contacting:

Valley Retriever

956 SW 10th St., Newport OR 97365

541-265-2253

Worm Bin

Jennifer Jackson is leaving HMSC and would like to donate her worm bin for composting. We discussed the possibility of taking it and placing it in the courtyard, but Todd believes the raccoons would get to it there. We wondered if it could go in the shop? We recognize the need for someone to take responsibility for it if we do agree to maintain it. We discussed the possibility of using it with school kids visiting the center. Sharon N. will call Jennifer to find out more information about maintaining the bin.

Action: Sharon will talk to Jennifer about the worm bin.