

HMSC Sustainability Committee

Meeting Minutes: January 13, 2009

Members Present: Randy Walker, Jay Peterson, Jennifer Menkel, Tom Wainwright, Devin Brakob,
Sharon Nieu Kirk, Judy Mullen, Ken Hall, Arlene Merems

Next Brownbag: Tuesday, February 3rd, noon, Library Seminar Room-Mike Sleight and Paul Rich
Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, February 10, 10:30am

Topics Covered:

Worm bin
Next Brownbag Speaker
Webpage for Sustainability Committee
Oregon Climate Dialog/ National Teach-in
Recycle Mania
Earth Tub
Industrial audit of HMSC seawater system
Announcements

1. WORM BIN

The worm bin has been placed in the HMSC staff lounge, temporarily. Sharon and Jennifer are tending it. Judy offers shredded paper from library if needed. Sharon will bring more worms and will buy a small trowel to use for turning the soil; she'll also make some informational signs. We can get composting buckets from Oregon Maid Ice Cream Store for a dollar each, and may place one under the sink.

Actions: Sharon buy trowel and make signs
Tom get buckets.

2. NEXT BROWNBAG

On Tuesday, February 3rd, Mark Sleight and Paul Rich (Efficiency Services Group, 1-888-883-9879) will speak about tax and energy rebates and home energy conservation.

Actions: Devin will get a blurb from the speakers about their topics
Ken will advertise the brownbag by Friday, January 30

March brownbag: we may ask Brandon Trelstad, the OSU Sustainability Coordinator.

April brownbag: Ken Hall, possibly, to talk about sustainability actions at HMSC

Other possible speakers: Vivien of the Climate Master class (OSU Extension), Michael Davis (off the grid), Phil Barbour (wind power)

3. WEBPAGE FOR SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

The committee still feels it should create an HMSC Sustainability Website; Jay and Ken will work on creating one. Devin concluded that UO and OSU both had excellent websites, and that the University of Pennsylvania and Duke University also do.

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

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

Action: Ken and Jay work on webpage

4. OREGON CLIMATE DIALOG/NATIONAL TEACH-IN ON GLOBAL WARMING

The National Teach-In begins on February 5th: <http://www.nationalteachin.org/about.php> with the goal of engaging over 1 million Americans in "solutions-driven dialogue". The

Teach-In includes a nationally available webcast: “The First 100 Days” in which David Orr, Hunter Lovins, Betsy Taylor, Ray Anderson, Billy Parish and Wahleah Johns discuss global warming solutions for the first 100 days of the new President’s administration.

On Feb. 6 HMSC will host the “Oregon Climate Dialogue”, bringing high school students from Lincoln, Benton, and Linn counties to hear and talk with scientists and policymakers on an issue of great importance. Speakers/panelists include NOAA’s Bill Peterson, Oregon Global Warming Commission’s Bill Bradbury, and Governor Kulongoski’s natural resources policy advisor Jessica Hamilton. A short video created by local students will be shown. Ken is organizing this, in collaboration with Lincoln County School District liaison Ruth McDonald, and Rick Brown and Nancee Hunter.

5. **RECYCLEMANIA**

During the ten week period of January 18th – March 28th many colleges and universities will collect data and report their recycling and trash weights for the Recyclemania competition; This is one barometer of an institution’s efforts at sustainable practices.

<http://www.recyclemania.org/>

Sharon Niekirk and Cait Goodwin will monitor HMSC recycling each week, converting the volume to weight. After ten weeks, we’ll have baseline data of HMSC’s recycling.

Arlene mentioned that ODFW donates its pop cans to the high school swim team

Actions: Sharon will talk to Range Bayer about recycling at each building and meet with Randy and Ken on data collection needs (ask HMSC Business office for solid waste dumpster stats?)

6. **EARTHTUB**

Jennifer met with the Green Team of the Oregon Coast Aquarium to discuss writing a grant jointly with HMSC in order to purchase an Earthtub (for composting). The cost of the tub is \$9,000.00 which doesn’t include the wiring and cost of electrician. ORCA does want to have an Earthtub; the idea is that HMSC would share the use of it. It would be located near the aquarium and could also serve as an educational tool. Jennifer Menkel will help to write the grant.

7. **INDUSTRIAL AUDIT OF HMSC SEAWATER SYSTEM**

Randy Walker reminded us that Thursday will be the audit of HMSC seawater system. Auditors will be looking for energy inefficiencies and opportunities. Hopefully, heated or cooled water can be captured and recycled.

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

-A winter film series about water will take place at HMSC on the 2nd Monday evening of each month, through May.

-David Gugenheim will speak about ocean conservation on March 31st at 1:30pm.

-The Climate Masters class is in session in Corvallis for 10 weeks; Ken Hall hopes to attend tonight to see if the class can be imported to Lincoln County in the future.