

HMSC Sustainability Committee

Meeting Minutes: May 5, 2009/ by J. Mullen

Present: Baker, Anjanette; Cross, Todd; Don, Christen; Folger, Christina; Hall, Ken; Menkel, Jennifer; Mullen, Judy; Wainwright, Tom

May Committee meeting w/ speaker : Dave Burr (EMS contact at Corvallis EPA office)
-May 26 (tentatively)

Next Regular Committee Meeting: Tuesday, June 2, 2009

For next Brownbag Speaker (tentatively): Riki Lanegan (Sustainability program manager for Lincoln City)

I. Brown Bag Lunch Speaker Series

We discussed potential brownbag speakers for May and June; Ken Hall suggests asking someone from the *Carbon Collaborative* located in Otis, Oregon. Guy Sievert is the managing partner: guy@carboncollaborative.net
Phone: 503-392-4564

The *Carbon Collaborative* is “a diverse group of stakeholders based in seven of Oregon’s coastal watersheds who have created a vertical supply chain to provide high quality forest based carbon offset projects to the voluntary and compliance driven carbon markets” (<http://carboncollaborative.net>)

-Jennifer Menkel would like to see a brownbag speaker who can help individuals to calculate a personal carbon footprint. **Mark Saelens** (Solid Waste District program manager at Lincoln County) **or Riki Lanegan** (Sustainability program manager for Lincoln City) may be able to lead such a brownbag.

- **Jennifer will contact them to see if either is willing to speak at a brownbag lunch session.**

-Our sustainability committee decided that Dave Burr (EMS contact for Corvallis EPA office) would make a great speaker for our regular committee meeting: we hope to have him for our speaker sometime in late May.

- Christina Folger will contact him to find out when he can speak at HMSC.

II. HMSC Commuting Survey

-The group still has a bit more data to submit to Anjanette for the final calculation.

- **Anjanette will complete the data and publish it for the HMSC community.**
- **Ken will send Anjanette more data.**

The group agreed that going door to door to collect data seemed to work well. Next time around, we’d like to use a program like SurveyMonkey as well as the door to door method. We may try new venues for data collecting, such as a table at the grad student donut/coffee gathering. Not many students were actually surveyed this time.

- The group wonders how many cars are parked at HMSC on any given average day.
- **Todd Cross will provide a “car count” collected from the HMSC lots.**

III. HMSC Energy Efficiency Improvement Plans

Lincoln County has a “rural” status according to the USDA. This status makes available certain incentives and programs, such as the USDA –Rural Energy for America program (REAP) Loan Guarantees, Rural Business Enterprise Grants, and Rural Economic Development Loan and Grants.

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/bprogs.htm>

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/or/biz/OtherEnergyFunders.pdf>

HMSC plans to replace the outdoor lighting with more energy-efficient lighting; perhaps one of these incentives or grants for rural communities can help save costs on this project. There may also be incentives from Oregon State Department of Energy. Ken and Randy Walker are looking for a committee member who is interested in helping with this process.

<http://oregon.gov/ENERGY/CONS/BUS/BETC.shtml>

<http://oregon.gov/ENERGY/LOANS/selphm.shtml>

IV. HMSC Recycling/ Waste Stream Audit

-Jennifer Menkel has dutifully collected returnable cans and bottles from around HMSC (mostly NOAA bldgs.) She received \$17.50 for items collected over the last 4 months. This money provided for a new collection bin for the HMSC staff lounge. (ODFW may have more cans available for Jennifer).

-Jennifer continues to work on the Earth Tub grant which will be submitted in August. This will be a joint effort between HMSC and the Oregon Coast Aquarium; the Earthtub will be a shared unit.

- **Ken and Jennifer will continue to stress to our Oregon Coast Aquarium colleagues that HMSC does have real need for access to such a tub.**

V. Worm Bin/ Composting

-The worm bin is leaking.

- **Todd Cross will see if he can mend the leak.**

-Christine Folger tells us the EPA office located at HMSC has implemented a new Earth bin composter.

VI. Sustainability Webpage for HMSC

Ken Hall and Jay Peterson continue to work on an HMSC webpage.

VII. Green Team at SeaFest

HMSC will be purchasing several collapsible recycling cans for use at SeaFest; they are a folding metal rack on which clear cans or bags can be hung. We will need to

plan where to place them; someone will need to work with SeaFest volunteers who will help place and remove them.

- **Todd Cross will help SeaFest volunteers know where to place these collapsible recycling containers.**

-We'd like to host a group of local green businesses and their energy-efficient products at Seafest; it's a chance to showcase some local "sustainable technologies" for SeaFest attendees. For example, a local entrepreneur will have electric utility vehicles on display that day. The group will work on thinking of other local green businesses with sustainable technologies for display.