

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR A GREEN CITY
MINUTES FROM MEETING
January 16, 2008
Male High School Library
4:30-5:30 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m. by Teddie Phillipson-Mower and Donna Griffin. Introductions were made.

I. Presentations:

1. Newsletter Proposal for all Partnership for a Green City Committees (Donna Griffin)
It was suggested that a newsletter be established as a means of formal communication among the committees of the Partnership. During this discussion, the issue was raised that the Environmental Education Committee's agenda should be at least in part, responding to the work of other committees of the Partnership and providing support for their work through environmental education committee initiatives.

ACTION: Committee responses were supportive of this idea. Brent Fryrear, newly hired Director of the Partnership for a Green City, emphasized the need for improved communication throughout the Partnership and has initiated quarterly meetings with the committee chairs.

2. Introduction of Brent Fryrear, Director of the Partnership for a Green City (Brent Fryrear)
In December 2007, Brent Fryrear became the first Director of the Partnership for a Green City. He is a product of Jefferson County Public Schools and received his Bachelors of Science degree in biology with graduate studies in chemical engineering from the University of Louisville. In 2007, he received his master's degree in higher education administration from UofL. In addition to his extensive educational background, Brent has more than 20 years of experience in environmental health and safety. He joined the Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center (KPPC) in 2006 as a Pollution Prevention Specialist during which he promoted energy efficiency in schools through the Kentucky Energy Efficiency Program for Schools (KEEPS). Brent is also an active member of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers and is the author of numerous articles, which have been published in environmental periodicals.

ACTION: Brent is spear-heading the development of a Green Issues Committee which is creating a video or DVD to educate members of the Partnership as to how they can participate and be more active in the Partnership. He would like to hear from anyone with ideas, questions, and/or concerns. He can be reached at (502) 852-8854 or brent@partnershipforagreencity.org.

3. Climate Change Education and Outreach Committee (Teddie Phillipson Mower) –
This committee has taken shape over the past several months. Angela Page, science

teacher at Male High School is co-chair of the committee along with Keith Mountain, Geography professor at UL. One of the major goals of the committee involves planning formal and non-formal educational programs at a high level by integrating scientists, researchers, etc into the mold. The first meeting was held in December 2007, facilitated by Art Williams. Angela Page identified developing goals for the committee as the biggest challenge. There are several sub-committees of the climate change committee:

GHG Emission Inventory

Land use/Transportation

Education and Outreach

Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy

Utility Regulations, Policies and Practices

Local Impacts

The Climate Change Committee will be developing a plan of focus for the year including desired indicators and outcomes. This committee is different from the EEC in that members will be looking specifically at how to change behavior in the community.

ACTION: You may contact Angela with ideas and comments at Angela.Page@jefferson.kyschools.us . Angela will serve on both the EEC and Climate Change Committees and provide communication between the two.

4. Funding School Gardens (Carol Gunderson) –

There is a farm bill amendment in Congress to authorize 10 million dollars for funding school gardens. Representative Yarmuth is on the committee. For more information visit the Kids Gardening website at <http://www.kidsgardening.org/farm-bill.asp>. Send a message to your representative if you would like Congress to support this bill.

ACTION: If you support this legislation, contact your representative. The food group will provide an update at the next meeting.

II. Business:

1. Revamping Attendance and Increasing Membership: In an effort to maintain momentum with the initial kickoff of our committee's work this year, we will be exploring ideas to keep the EEC vibrant and productive, and addressing the need to re-energize the EEC with faculty who have research expertise.

ACTION: For the next EEC meeting, bring ideas for reinvigorating member attendance and helping new members understand the role of the EEC. Brent Fryrear and Donna Griffin will work on this and bring ideas to the next meeting.

2. Introduction of U of L Student Attendees: Teddie's UL class, Intro to EE Methods, will be attending each EEC meeting this spring. In the past students have made significant contributions to committee work including the Research Working Group (2007-2007). Dr. Barbara Burns chaired this group whose members completed several research projects that can be viewed on the UL Center for Environmental Education Website (<http://louisville.edu/education/research/centers/environmental-ed/uofl->

[environment.html](#)). Russ Barnett is teaching an honors class and has two students that want to research outdoor classrooms and their impact on achievement. They will be using the EEC as a resource. Dr. Burns will have students researching asthma as related to environmental conditions.

No committee action needed at this time.

III. Working Groups:

The following working groups met for approximately 15 minutes to discuss current work. A report of the working group discussions is attached.

Alternative Energy- Beth Inman and Jason Sanchez

Outdoor Classrooms-Darleen Horton

Youth Summit-Julie Shinton-Fried

Food Working Group – Angelique Perez

Middle School EE Pilot –Jerry Durall and Donna Griffin (A meeting will be scheduled at Lassiter to determine a strategy for the spring semester.)

IV. Announcements:

1. *Louisville Water Company's Adventures in Water Festival* will be held May 7, 8, and 9th at the Water Tower. A flier for this festival is attached to the email. Contact Kelly Dearing-Smith if you would like to be a presenter at ksmith@lwcky.com.
2. *Brightside's Environmental Youth Summit* will be held on February 20th at the Louisville Science Center. The goal of the Summit is to empower and educate youth in grades 4th-12th who are looking for ways to reduce their schools' environmental footprint. During the Fall Youth Summit students learned about the eight inventory topics included in the Green and Healthy Schools Initiative and discussed ways to address these topics and take action in their schools. The Spring session will provide students with an in-depth look into three of the eight inventory topics - **Water, Green Spaces and Energy** – including how to implement change at their school. In addition, this Summit will also work on developing student leadership skills. Caryn Walker who attended the Fall Summit shared that her students (Elem and HS) were very engaged but indicated focusing on just one inventory topic is more realistic than trying to work on all of them. A flier for the Spring Youth Summit is attached. For more information contact Julie Shinton-Fried at julie.shintonfried@louisville.gov.
3. Carol Gunderson runs the *Food Literacy Project at Oxmoor Farm*. They now have funding for buses from MSD up to \$150. Bring your students to the farm or volunteer to facilitate! Field trips are available in the Spring and Fall. For more information visit the Food Literacy Project website, <http://www.foodliteracyproject.org/> or email Carol at foodliteracyproject@gmail.com

4. NAAEE (North American Association for Environmental Educators) extended their proposal deadline to Jan. 29th. The 2008 Annual Conference will be October 15-18 in Wichita, KS. The proposals do not have to be research; exciting and innovative ideas and programs can be shared as well. Contact Teddie for more information at t.phillipsonmower@louisville.edu
5. Beth Inman is profiled in *Underwired* magazine. She discusses this committee, as well as her business of converting cars to run on vegetable oil. Jason Sanchez (Louisville Science Center) and Beth Inman (science teacher at Ballard High School) are organizing an alternative energy day at the Louisville Science Center on April 19th. If you would like to help organize this event contact Beth at beth.inman@louisville.kyschools.us or Jason Sanchez at Jason.sanchez@louisvilleky.gov.
6. The Spirit of Jefferson project is a collaboration of JCPS, UL, the Belle of Louisville, Inc, and Louisville Water Co. We are planning four days in the spring (March 12, 17, 27, and Apr. 2) to use the Spirit of Jefferson as a floating classroom we are calling Water Wonders. Classes participating will rotate through 3 of 6 stations including
 - Non-point Source Pollution
 - Force and Motion on the Ohio River
 - Erosion, Sedimentation, Turbidity: Filtering River Water
 - Ohio River Tunes: Music as a Primary Source of Information
 - The History of Riverboats
 - Freedom River: The Ohio as a boundary between slave and free states

The working group is meeting again on March 3rd at 2:20 at the Broadus, on the Waterfront. For more information contact Donna Griffin at donna.griffin@jefferson.kyschools.us.

7. THE FEBRUARY 20TH EEC MEETING WILL BE AT GHEENS, ROOM G05-06 (BASEMENT LEVEL.)

The meeting concluded at 5:35 pm.