

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR A GREEN CITY
MINUTES FROM MEETING
MARCH 21, 2007
Rauch Planetarium
4:30-5:30 p.m.**

Attendance:

Teddie Phillipson-Mower (UofL), Donna Griffin (JCPS), Angela Page (Male), Julie Fried (Brightside), Johnny Brinkworth (UofL), David Wicks (JCPS), Darleen Horton (JCPS), Kaki Robinson (Kennedy), Angelique Perez (UofL), Carol Gundersen (Food Literacy Project), Stephanie Herzog (UofL), Brittany Salsman (UofL), Joe Yurt (Bernheim), Claude Stephens (Bernheim), Sydne Roberts (Louisville Male), Michael O'Toole (St. Xavier), Michelle Gantner (UofL), Anna Krippenstapel (UofL), Tonya Swan (Jefferson Memorial Forest)

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Teddie Phillipson-Mower and Donna Griffin. Introductions were made.

I. Presentations

1. Sydne Roberts, a senior at Louisville Male High School, detailed the Steering Committee's plans for the next Youth Summit. During the Summit, the attending youth will create a traveling educational display from a pop-out camper donated by Bernheim Forest. The display will be called "Earth Movements" and will include a poetry wall, before and after photos of cleanups, a chart of what we recycle and how long items take to decompose, art from trash, and featured environmental school programs. Schools will be able to host the traveling display for special events on their campuses and the display will also be featured during the summer around Louisville at Metro events. For more information visit Brightside's website, www.brightsideinc.org

ACTION: Donations of recycled and reused items are greatly appreciated. Please drop off donations at Brightside, 400 S First St., prior to the Youth Summit or at the Mellwoods Arts & Entertainment Center, 1860 Mellwood Ave, the day of the Summit (April 22nd). Students who cannot attend the event can submit their environmental poetry to Brightside. Contact Julie Fried for details, Julie.shintonfried@louisvilleky.gov

2. ACTIVE Louisville, a five-year Active Living by Design grantee, joins Metro government agencies with community non-profits to promote active living in three low-income urban neighborhoods: Phoenix Hills, Smoketown, and Shelby Park. Part of their mission has been focused on revitalizing farmers markets and urban community gardens to promote healthy eating.
 - The Family and Communities Committee members are currently working on energizing the downtown Farmers' Markets and their next meeting is Tuesday,

April 3rd at 3:30pm. The Food Security Task Force is meeting Monday, April 23rd at 6pm at the California Community Center.

- Carol Gunderson is writing a Garden Curriculum for use at the St. Peter Claver Community Center by Community Organizations without much gardening experience.

ACTION: ACTIVE Louisville would love to have some members of the EEC set up at the Farmers' Market with some kid friendly, educational activities any Saturday after June 2nd between 10 am – 12 pm. For more information contact Jennifer Clark at activelouisville@gmail.com or 819-7881. Carol Gunderson would love to have EEC members involved in the urban gardening pilot project this summer. If you are interested contact Carol at farmercarol@gmail.com

3. Stephanie Herzog and Brittany Salsman gave a brief overview of the U of L Student Activities Board (SAB). The student-run SAB provides social, multicultural, recreational, and educational activities for the University's students and other interested members of the campus community. In April, there will be two environmental events held on campus that are open to the community. Refer to the announcement section for details.

ACTION: If you are interested in reserving a table to hand-out information during these events, contact Stephanie at smherz01@gwise.louisville.edu or Brittany at basals01@gwise.louisville.edu

4. Michael O'Toole, an Earth Science teacher at St. Xavier, and his students have created, The Xpedition, a global-to-local experiential learning and outreach program that focuses on global climates and changes in those climates due to global warming. Lead by O'Toole, a delegation of students from St.X will travel to Mt. Kilimanjaro (the tallest peak in Africa) during the summer of 2008 where they will document their eye-witness accounts of the mountain's shrinking glaciers. Before and after this Xpedition to Mt. Kilimanjaro, the program aims to raise awareness of the causes of and possible solutions to global warming through local outreach to Louisville youth. Several schools have already booked the program for the next school year. For more information visit their website at www.tigersonline.org/kilimanjaro

ACTION: Michael would love feedback, ideas, and criticism about the website. Email your comments to otoolemike@saintxfac.com

II. Working Groups Reports and News

1. Climate Change Subcommittee (Teddie Phillipson-Mower) – Metro Government has initiated a Climate Change Committee led by Art Williams from the Air Pollution Control District. The committee meets every other month with the next meeting sometime in April. They are currently lacking an education component and have asked Teddie and David if members of the EEC would be willing to form a subcommittee/working group on climate change. These members would bring a much need education perspective to the Climate Change Committee.

ACTION: If you are interested in joining the climate change working group, contact Teddie Phillipson-Mower at t.phillipsonmower@louisville.edu

2. Outdoor Classrooms Update (Darleen Horton) –
 - The group is currently working on resolving the issue of maintaining outdoor classrooms over the summer. There are several groups, including Youth Build (a program from at-risk students) that may participate in this effort.
 - Another issue is that lots of places are giving away trees and people are overplanting. As a result, the group is working to encourage responsible planting.
 - Thanks to Johnny Brinkworth and Brightside, the comprehensive database of outdoor classrooms in Jefferson County is now available on Brightside's website, www.brightsideinc.org

ACTION: The next outdoor classroom meeting is Wednesday, April 4th. Contact Darleen Horton for details, Darleen.horton@jefferson.kyschools.us

3. Jefferson Memorial Forest Proposal Update: Metro Parks / Middle School Partnerships (Tonya Swan) - Partnership with Lassiter Middle is currently at a standstill because the principal is having difficulty getting the faculty in consensus about incorporating EE into the curriculum. There are several High Schools, however, that are interested in forming a partnership. Angela Page and her students at Male High School are working on the Beargrass Creek initiative and Eastern and Central have recently come on board with the Miles Park initiative.

No committee action needed at this time.

III. New Business

1. Indicators and Outcomes for Working Groups and EEC Survey (Teddie Phillipson-Mower) – **It would be greatly appreciated if you would complete the *How are we doing? Survey* and email it to Emily at etrey03@louisville.edu** . It helps us because with this baseline data we can periodically document how we are doing which can be useful in applying for grants. If you didn't receive the survey via the EEC mailing list, you may request a copy by emailing Emily.
2. Environmental Literacy Questionnaire (Teddie Phillipson-Mower) – This questionnaire will be used to establish a baseline to find out if we are making an impact on the community. Yuliya, Teddie's research assistant is creating the questionnaire and is learning to validate and instrument. Please take some time to complete the two questionnaires. One deals with the clarity of the questions and the other deals with the relevance. Once again, if you haven't received the questionnaires via the mailing list, email Emily.
3. U of L Center for Environmental Education Website (Emily Conn) – Once this website goes live (which will hopefully be in the next couple of weeks) you will be

able to access the agendas and minutes from the EEC meeting as well as a calendar of EE events. The web address will be sent to you once it's available for viewing. There will also be an email address specifically for the UofL Center for EE.

IV. Old Business

1. Kentucky Database of Certified Facilitators of Project Wet, Wild, and Learning Tree – Once again this database will be used for organizational and collaboration purposes. Please email Emily at etreyn03@louisville.edu if you are a certified facilitator. To date only one member of the EEC has identified themselves as a facilitator. There will be an opportunity this summer for a share-a-thon in which facilitators can see how others are modifying the programs to fit their classroom needs.
2. Campus Community Partnership for Sustainability 2007 Conference, April 20-22 at Eastern Kentucky University. Student Delegates from UofL along with several other Kentucky colleges and universities will participate in a special dinner discussion about ways to promote sustainability on their respective campuses. It also promises to be beneficial for all Partners and will include special sessions for teachers. For more information visit www.greencampusky.org

V. Announcements

1. PD sessions coming up:
 - A. April 18th: Urban Agriculture – 4:30 to 7:30 at Blackacre State Nature Preserve. Presented by the Food Literacy Project at Oxmoor Farm. For more information contact Carol Gunderson at farmercarol@gmail.com
 - B. April 25th: Outdoor Classrooms – 4:30 to 7:30 at J.F. Kennedy Montessori
 - C. June 25-29, 2007: Louisville Inquiry Summit. 8:30 to 3:30pm at the Louisville Science Center. For more information contact Carrie Bohnert, Education Programs Coordinator at (502) 560-7161
2. Step It Up 2007 – This April 14th, tens of thousands of Americans will gather all across the country at meaningful, iconic places to call for action on climate change. Check out the national website at www.stepitup07.org. There are two local climate action events occurring in Louisville:
 - A. Earth Rescue Louisville and Louisville_CAN (Climate Action Network) will be holding a community intervention downtown at the Mazzoli Federal Building (6th Street between Broadway and Chestnut) from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Enjoy motivated speakers, information booths, and learn about what you can do to help send a message to our legislators asking them to endorse policies that reduce Global Climate Change. For more information contact Earth Rescue Louisville at www.myspace.com/earthrescuelouisville or email at earthrescue@insightb.com
 - B. The Professional Porch Sitters Union advocates action through sitting around being neighborly, telling stories, and contemplating strategies to curb Global Climate Change. Join the PPSU for a potluck on the porch of 1341 Hull Street (40204). For details contact Crow Hollister or Carmen Zirnheld at crowblackcrow@yahoo.com. Information about the Professional Porch

Sitters Union can be found at Orion Grassroots Network at www.orionsociety.org (click on Step It Up 2007).

3. U of L Student Activities Board (Contact: Stephanie Herzog, smherz01@gwise.louisville.edu)
 - A. On Monday, April 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the SAC Floyd Theater, there will be an environmental lecture featuring guest speaker Jim Motavalli (editor of "E" environmental magazine.) Cynthia Knapek from Brightside and a student representative from UofL's Greenthumb Environmental Club will also present.
 - B. On Tuesday April 17th, during lunch hours on campus (11:00-1:00), we will have "Eco-Steps," an event celebrating Earth Day. This will feature a number of tables with local environmental groups, an organic lunch and water purification demonstration among other activities. If you are interested in reserving a table to hand-out any information during this event please let me know! This event will be in and around the Red Barn next to the SAC.
4. Nominations for The Brightside Fred Wiche Award for both the adult division and the school division have been extended to Sunday, April 1, 2007. The submission deadline for the *Consumption Puzzle* has also been extended to April 1, 2007. If you have any questions about either one of these items contact Julie Fried at julie.shintonfried@louisville.gov
5. Brightside's Youth Summit will be held on Earth Day (April 22nd) at the Mellwood Arts & Entertainment Center from 1-3:30 p.m. with a clean-up of Eva Bandman Park immediately following from 3:30-5 p.m (rain cancels cleanup only). Students from 4th to 12th grade are eligible to participate and can earn service hours. For more information visit Brightside's website at www.brightsideinc.org, or contact Julie Fried at Julie.ShintonFried@louisvilleky.gov
6. **The next Environmental Education Committee meeting will be held at Gheens on April 18, 2007 from 4:30 to 5:30.**