

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR A GREEN CITY
MINUTES**

March 18, 2009

Gheens Academy Rm 205-206

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Attendance: Emily Conn, Betsy Ruhe, Keith Mountain, Marcelle Gianelloni, Jason Sanchez, Michelle Amos, Sherri Brown, Brent Fryrear, Donna Griffin, Kaki Robinson, Judy Gardner, Bill Kennedy, Rosetta Fackler, Layne Greenwell, Teddie Phillipson

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm by Teddie Phillipson-Mower and Donna Griffin. Introductions were made.

I. New Business:

1. Brent Fryrear: Discussion of three hour professional development course on sustainability awareness, environmental ethic and the partnership principles (and why they are important) and how employees can be more sustainable for the JCPS summer series for Instructional Assistants, Plant Services and Custodial services.
2. Climate action report is coming out! There is an entire outreach section that will be included. The announcement is being made at the Louisville Zoo on Earth Day at 1:00 p.m. The Mayor, UofL president and JCPS superintendent will be in attendance. On May 5th Brent Fryrear has been asked to make a presentation in San Francisco on the climate action report. He will be addressing how to get all the right people together and make something happen. Keith Mountain reported that he has Louisville climate data that dates back to 1917. He also explained that everyone is welcome to look over the document. Keith will bring it in at the next meeting.
3. Earth Day happenings:
 - Sunday, April 26th, 10-2 p.m. Earth Day Party for the Planet at the Zoo. \$1 admission for everyone. Anyone who wants to participate (set up booth etc.) call or email Marcelle Gianelloni at marcelle.gianelloni@louisville.edu
 - Thursday, April 23rd, 9:00-3:15 p.m. at Kennedy Montessori School. Earth Day Fair with solid waste theme. This event is open to the community.
 - Wednesday, April 22, Indian trail is having an Earth Day celebration that will include a dedication to their new walking path.
 - Cane Run Elementary is having an Earth Day celebration on Wednesday, April 22, 10-2 p.m. Portland School is having their Earth Day celebration on Thursday, April 23rd. A major focus for both of these celebrations is to provide a community meet and greet for the schools since they are new environmental studies magnets.

3. Update on Brightside's Environmental Youth Summit on March 19, 2009: Things are set up and ready to go! Due to the school days missed for the ice storm we have less schools attending than we have in the past (195 students). We have developed a separate break out session for the elementary students. The handouts and data collection for the sessions really emphasize how the kids can put the data they collect to use at their schools. We have some really exciting possibilities for next year's Youth Summit. We may get an outdoor classroom/garden outside of the CEHD. We have substituted the carbon sequestration break out session with the outdoor classroom session. This session is more developmentally appropriate for the students. The five sessions include Outdoor classroom, waste management, Energy, Transportation, Storm Water management, and Elementary.

4. Professional Development planning: Please let us know if you have any ideas for future professional developments. Donna will be leading a number of PD's this summer locally and also some district wide PD's. She is starting at the most basic level of environmental education. The new director, Marilyn Decker, has contacted Donna asking that she identify outdoor extensions of the life science module and possibly observing the Boston school yard initiative. She is primarily looking for PD ideas for the environmental education magnet programs. She would like to focus on making teachers aware that many of the things they are currently teaching connect to environmental education. She would also like to address the false sense that environmental studies are all science. Please let us know if you have any ideas. Email ideas to cenvired@louisville.edu.

5. Discussion on connecting to the Partnership steering committee: As we are getting close to the end of the school year it is time to think about our role in the partnership at large. We would like for everyone to think about a different configuration for how the committee works. If we had a presence on each of the other teams this would allow for a greater understanding of what's going on in each of them. Put some thought towards this idea and if anyone has any ideas or suggestions please let us know. Right now there are 10 teams, but it is soon to become 12. It is an option to have representatives from each team attend a scheduled EEC meeting to share information about what is going in their committee. There are so many resources in the Environmental Education committee and we should connect this knowledge in order to help other teams create the functional products that the EE is capable of producing.

6. Living Lands and Water participation in May (Phyllis Croce): May 30th is the X-Stream Clean Sweep with Living Lands and Waters. There will be sign up information soon on the website: livinglandsandwaters.org. This year there will be fewer sites (there were 16 last year) and after a meeting in early April with organizers, Phyllis will pass on the specifics of the event.

II. Working Groups:

1. “What should Environmental Educators know about Jefferson County”
document discussion: Remember the deadline for first submissions is **March 31st**. Please send these drafts to cenvired@louisville.edu. Keith Mountain provided the committee with a list of guidelines for individuals to utilize while writing their portion of the document.

III. Announcements:

1. Darleen Horton: Science night at Chenoweth Elementary is focused on Environmental Education. Free food and entertainment will be provided. The Science night is scheduled for March 18th from 5-8 p.m. Everyone is invited!
2. Jason Sanchez: Next week is World Water Week at the Louisville Science Center. Monday, March 23rd at 6:30 we will be showing a film called Flow. This film addresses issues such as: who really owns water, the places that are running out of water, bottled water companies. After the film everyone will move to Proof where there will be a discussion. Please go to the Louisville Science Center website to register and find out more information about the event: louisvillescience.org. The event is on the bottom of the homepage titled “World Water Week Special Event March 23.”
3. Rosetta Fackler: Anyone who has an environmental education event or happening can submit the information to Ricki Gardenhire at: ricki.Gardenhire@ky.gov. All you need to do is put ‘Post on Cabinet Earth Month site’ in the subject line. You should submit the information as you wish it to appear on the site. Of course you should include the time, place and nature of the event and whether or not there is a fee for attending.
-EE in Kentucky the: www.eeinkentucky.org web site is also available for any Environmental Education event year round. Users will need to sign up to get on the site, which is free.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m. by Teddie Phillipson-Mower and Donna Griffin.