

Sustainability Committee Minutes Nov 24, 2020

Tuesday – Nov 24, 2020, 3:30 P.M.

Center School Conference Room

Attendees: Jennifer Miller, Karen Taylor, Heather Fried, Rebecca Waldo, Diane Linderman, Ronald Turner, Steve MacAusland

Regrets: Phil Parcak, Ian Neviaser, Rachel Carrion, Paula Gaudet, Connie Pan

- 1) Approval of Minutes – Karen made motion to accept. Diane seconded. No further comments. October 2020 minutes approved.
- 2) New Business
 - a) H. Fried – Education workstream
 - i) Good progress on film collection and communication within the HS. Recycling bin stickers (“what’s in”) have been distributed except to Center School. Those will be done within a week. Some noted uptick in recycling. LOTS of alcohol wipes in recycling which have to be removed. Send Steve M. the pdf for the recycling stickers (Heather).
 - ii) Environmental Club has joined the Open Space Commission (Amanda Blair poc) in clean-up efforts for OL open spaces, one Saturday each month. Good participation so far.
 - iii) Discussion of videos which may be helpful in communicating key messages in a fun quick format. The environmental club at HS will produce one. The other schools’ clubs have not re-started. Karen will cover LS and coordinate coverage of MC/CS. MS – follow up with Paula Gaudet (Heather). For information pass type of communications Heather can send information directly to the MS and lower schools via the team’s point of contact. Follow up with Mercy Algiers and Bonnie Ambruso to ensure single poc. (Heather)
 - iv) Trex video link (example) or to be used:
<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwi7-eyyqMPtAhWuwVkkHZG1BswQo7QBMAN6BAgFEAE&url=https%3A%2F%2Fm.facebook.co>

[m%2FTrexCompany%2Fvideos%2F561238807984438%2F&usg=AOvVaw0tD33BTjOPiA6BC10_oM99](https://www.trex.com/2Fvideos%2F561238807984438%2F&usg=AOvVaw0tD33BTjOPiA6BC10_oM99)



Sustainability
Committee 4R Novem

b) K. Taylor – 4R workstream

- i) 4R Campaign - provided briefing to PTO at LC and MS. Others to be coordinated.
- ii) Survey – over 200 responses so far, many with comments in text field.
- iii) Trex film - 248 lbs of film to date has been collected from all of the locations. Public access bins are located within Lyme Town Hall, Old Lyme Town Hall and LYSB. LYSB collection goes towards HS weight. Other external collection will be divided between other schools.



SAC Renewables
Presentation 11.24.20 I

c) R. Waldo – Renewables workstream

- i) Holly is the contact for the M&J bus contract. No response from M&J so far on discussing electric buses for Region.
- ii) Sustain CT and Rebecca coordinating effort to obtain ev chargers for school (HS/CS) via VW grant and PURA funding if possible. Timing unclear.
- iii) Informational discussion of pros and cons of a synthetic playing surface. Highlights of the key arguments against crumb rubber infill fields were discussed as potential impact on children's health, potential leachables in water runoff and microplastics from the crumb rubber entering the water system off site. And of synthetic fields in general, its impact on soil as a carbon sink. Grass field silt and fertilizer runoff, water consumption and energy and time spent in weekly maintenance were also noted. Links to studies both against crumb rubber infill and those reporting no negative impacts when used as a playing field are readily available in search engines. Many are posted on the District website in a special artificial playing surface section. See pdf ppt attached for additional references.

3) Adjourned 4:45pm Ron motion, Karen sesond. Next Meeting Scheduled – December 22, 2020, 3:30pm.