

Sustainability Committee Minutes Jan 26, 2021

Center School Conference Room, 3:30 pm

Attendees: Jennifer Miller, Karen Taylor, Heather Fried, Rebecca Waldo, Diane Linderman (phone), Ronald Turner, Ian Neviaser

Regrets: Phil Parcak, Steve MacAusland, Rachel Carrion, Paula Gaudet, Connie Pan

- 1) Approval of Minutes – Karen made motion to accept. Rebecca seconded. No further comments. November 2020 minutes approved.
- 2) New Business



Sustainability

Education Workflow F

- a) H. Fried – Education workstream: Review and discussion of Educational Workstream recommendations.
 - i) Identify and establish Greenleaf School committees at each school in the district.
 - ii) Encourage the formation of a series of progressive clubs from elementary schools through high school that would focus on environmental education and local land stewardship.
 - iii) Create informational signage throughout the district to increase awareness of State recycling guidelines.
 - iv) Create informational videos and brief communication pieces to include in District communications, perhaps routinely using space in Focus.
 - v) Identify grants which support environmental education initiatives and provide support for teachers in such.
 - vi) General discussion around pollinator pathways, gardens, tours, etc., as means of beautifying the area around the future synthetic playing field. EC maintains some already. “Pollinate Old Lyme” and “Sustain OL” are progressing ideas and will be good partner opportunity.



Sustainability

Committee 4R January

- b) K. Taylor – 4R workstream

- i) Communications -Karen and Bridget to discuss adding one or more videos to the scroll on the website for the duration of the Trex Challenge to address constant questions from the community. The SC static info is too far down in the website for those with limited knowledge to readily find. Explore a separate page to highlight initiatives and activities.
- ii) Surveys – MS, HS, Staff reported a baseline avg of 4.04, Elem schools 3.3 out of 5 in



Region 18
Sustainability Committ

- understanding of and adhering to recycling activities.
 - iii) Ensuring sustainability of our efforts – Historically, initiatives outside of school curriculum have fallen apart once parents’ children have moved on or interest wanes. Committee discussed potential ways to maintain gains, embed in culture. Continue discussion in context of roadmap.
 - iv) Trex – drop-offs with partner BigY are limited to 6 bags per day. Karen, Mara, Jenn, Heather self-coordinating now. Going forward might be assigning days per week to each school (CS/OL Town, LC/L Town, MC/MS with 3 days to HS). Easier to obtain volunteer drivers, less day to day coordination, avoid last minute scrambles. Team will draft logistics plan, and proposal for sustainability in future years.
- c) R. Waldo – Renewables workstream
- i) 2021 budget calls for replacement of old maintenance staff golf cart. Ron confirmed that both current and new will be electric.
 - ii) Rebecca noted that with increased electrification expected across the State additional resources may become available. Additionally, expecting an Eversource rate hike in 2022.

3) Adjourned 4:30 pm.