

**Limestone District School Board
Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee
Wednesday, January 28, 2015
6:00 p.m.**

**Limestone Education Centre
220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston**

Agenda

1. **Welcome**
2. **Approval of the Agenda**
3. **Approval of the Minutes – October 14, 2014**
 - a. (Copy of minutes appended.)
4. **Business Arising From the Minutes**
5. **Introduction of Members**
6. **Community Presentation – Parent, Jeremy DaCosta on Active Transportation Planning at J.R. Henderson P.S.**
7. **Presentation – NAEC Biomass Boiler Update**
8. **Current Initiatives Presentation**
9. **Flagship Project – School Yard Naturalization**
10. **Food Garden AP**
11. **Election of Community Co-Chair**
12. **Other Business**
13. **Next Meeting Date** (The next meeting of the ESAC is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10th, 2015, at the Limestone Education Centre, 220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, at 6:00 p.m.)
14. **Adjournment**

**Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Limestone District School Board**

October 14, 2014

A meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee was held in the Barry C. O'Connor Board Room at the Limestone Education Centre, 220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, Ontario on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Present

Members: A. Mack, Co-chair of the School Council Liaison
R. Noordegraaf, Kingston Coalition for Active Transportation, KFL&A Public Health
S. Luxford Oddie, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority
Z. MacEachren, Faculty of Education, Queen's University
D. Hahn, National Farmers Union
K. Wall, Sustainable Kingston
K. Moulton, Hydro One
M. Shaw, Loving Spoonful
K. Pender, County of Frontenac

Officials: P. Murray, Chair
D. Hendry, Sustainable Initiatives Coordinator
J. Hendry, Energy/Environmental Technologist
D. Fowler, Manager of Facility Services
S. Lehman, Supervising Principal
M. Sewell, Program Leader, Skills Training & Technology

Regrets: B. Corby, School Council Liaison Committee
D. Jackson, Trustee
M. McCormac, Student Trustee
T. Carpenter, SWITCH
L. Malcolm, KFL&A Public Health
T. McKenzie, County of Lennox & Addington

Recorder: L. Strange, Records Management Coordinator

The meeting was chaired by Trustee Murray, who called the meeting to order, welcoming those present to the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

1. Welcome

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY David Hahn, that the agenda as distributed, be approved. Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes – May 7, 2014

MOVED BY R. Noordegraaf, that the minutes of May 7, 2014, as distributed, be approved. Carried.

4. Business Arising From the Minutes

None of this time.

5. Introduction of Members

Members of the committee introduced themselves and identified the organization they are representing.

6. Community Presentation – Loving Spoonful (Mara Shaw)

Mara Shaw of Loving Spoonful provided a presentation to ESAC about the history and mission of the organization. In 2013 more than 19,800 people in Kingston were below the poverty line, with approximately 7.7 % of families nationally facing food insecurity.

Loving Spoonful is dedicated to enhancing healthy food access for low-income individuals and families in Kingston through its many programs and partnerships, such as:

FOOD RECLAMATION – a free pick up service for restaurants, caterers, food suppliers and farmers markets to donate their surplus food to 20 community programs. Last year 28,800 meals were provided.

PRESERVE RESERVES – food preservation workshops.

GROW PROJECT – a grade 5 educational workshop and community gardens in schools

GROW A ROW – community campaign to encourage the public to grow a row in their gardens and donate their extra harvest

COMMUNITY GARDENS – we support over 25 of Kingston's community gardens.

Loving Spoonful also partners with local farmer and through this was able to provide 10, 700 meals last year, resulting in significant savings for meal programs and area shelters.

7. Current Initiatives Presentation

D. Hendry provided an overview of the history of the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee for the LDSB, as well as an introduction to Sustainable Kingston, a non-profit organization created by the City of Kingston. Sustainable Kingston is guided by input from the community and works at arm's length from the city to create and facilitate projects independently.

D. Hendry provided an update on the current initiatives within the LDSB:

- Grade 9 ,10 & 11 Bus Passes
- Food Garden Administrative Policy
- Recycling Scheduling Initiative
- Take Back the Light: Has recycled 4826 lamps through a program approved recycler
- Ecoschools: 14 LDSB schools received a certification during the 2013 – 2014 school year
- Batteries: have 17 participating schools (collected approximately 1500 pounds of batteries to date)
- Green Bins: Bayridge P.S. participating this year

D. Hendry also shared information about a recently approved program to be piloted in the near future. Slow Cookers for Kids will be facilitated with assistance from Culinary Arts students from St. Lawrence College and will provide students with the skills, ingredients and equipment needed to make easy and nutritious meals for their families. First Avenue School will have approximately 125 students involved, and a second school from a rural community is being sought. Storrington Public School was suggested as a possible fit as they have run events using slow cooker recipes in the past.

Manager Fowler provided an update on the environmental sustainability initiatives proposed for the new Kingston North Elementary School, which would include:

- **Energy Efficiency**
 - Energy Modelling
 - High levels of insulation and high performance glazing
 - High efficiency Heating and Cooling Systems
 - Use of daylight to reduce lighting during the day
 - Use of window shades and trees to minimize solar gain on south and west facing windows
 - Building Automation System to optimise energy use
 - Provision for future solar panels to offset power consumption
- **High Learning Environment Quality**
 - Low VOC materials
 - Durable moisture resistant materials
 - Effective ventilation and fresh air systems
 - Pervasive natural light
 - Views to the exterior throughout the building
- **Reduce Water Use**
 - Low Flow Fixtures
 - Hand free Infra-red Sensors
 - Native plants that require no irrigation
- **Low Impact Building**
 - Green construction measures to reduce energy use and waste production
 - Use of local and high recycled content material
 - Durable long lasting construction

Built-in recycling collection and waste separation

- **Sustainable Transportation**

Safe and convenient routes provided to encourage walking

Located near Kingston Transit stop

Separate drop off locations for cars and buses giving buses priority for efficient and easy loading and unloading

Bike racks that are clearly visible at main entrance

- **Improve Micro Climate**

Southside tree planting shade the building, play areas and parking to reduce summertime heating

- **Natural Environment**

Create outdoor classroom spaces

Create gathering areas with natural materials

8. ESAC Survey Information & Flagship Project

(a) ESAC Survey

D. Hendry provided the results of the ESAC survey administered in the spring of 2014. Overall participants felt the committee was doing well, but acknowledged there is still much still to be done.

(b) Flagship Project

ESAC members broke into small groups to discuss possible themes, events or initiatives that could become a Flagship Project for the committee. The following suggestions were made:

- The development of 'nature schools for schools'; with a focus on outdoor education.
- A suggestion was made to emulate recent training in the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board, which is based on the Forest School Canada program. This program was developed from practices successfully used in Scandinavian countries.
- Initiate a pilot school or schools for training and supporting LDSB teachers in outdoor education i.e how to adapt curriculum for outdoor learning.
- Members suggested identifying a few schools to pilot who had space that could be easily retro-fitted
- Replicate the uses of the 'Rockatorium' space at J.G. Simcoe.
- Strengthen the partnership with LDSB Communication department to ensure all important and useful information is getting to students, staff and families
- Use of professional speakers to inspire and educate staff
- Engage parents and students in developing outdoor spaces
- Develop a best practices manual to show what can be done with outdoor education spaces
- Apply through Evergreen for assistance in developing outdoor spaces.

In November a representative from Evergreen is coming to speak to Queen's Faculty of Education. Z. MacEachren offered to provide details about the visit to D. Hendry for follow-up.

- An event or project to mobilize the students and schools to get them involved

Action: D. Hendry to follow up with Communications re dissemination of information from the ESAC committee and for the opening of a Twitter account.

Action: S. Lehman and D. Hendry to investigate a consultation with a representative from Evergreen.

Action: D. Hendry to investigate the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board training for possible replication in LDSB.

Members discussed the possibility of informal sessions between meetings to keep the momentum of the committee.

Members suggested reaching out to School Councils for help in sharing information about ESAC activities. It was further suggested that EcoSchools contacts and/or LDSB Principals could be an avenue for communication.

Healthy School Profiles has a champion at each LDSB school and could send out information through its newsletter.

Members suggested reviewing regional granting sources for additional funding opportunities for projects and investigating the involvement of Queen's students in planning for outdoor spaces.

Members who are interested in being a part of the work team for the Flagship Project development should let D. Hendry know BY November 14th.

9. Food Garden AP

D. Hendry provided an update on the Food Garden document developed by Queen's University students. The large document has been reviewed and simplified into a new *Development and Maintenance of a School Food Garden Administrative Policy*, which was circulated to members at the meeting. The accompanying form, *LDSB School Initiated Outdoor Project proposal- Request for Site Consultation*, has also been updated to make it more user-friendly. KFL&A Public Health and Loving Spoonful were both consulted during the development of the draft Administrative Policy.

S. Lehman asked the members to review the two documents and provide feedback by Wednesday, October 22. After such time the forms and feedback will be shared with LDSB Senior Staff for finalization.

Members suggested the development of a workshop to help get information to interested parties and to assist with applications. A further suggestion was made to change the application submission timing to December – February.

10. Election of Community Co-Chair

MOTION: To postpone the Election of a Co-Chair to the January ESAC meeting.

MOVED BY: D. Hahn that the election of community co-chair be deferred. Carried.

11. Other Business

There was no other business discussed at this time.

12. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the ESAC is scheduled for January 28, 2015, at the Limestone Education Centre, 220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, at 6:00 p.m.

10. Adjournment

MOVED BY R. Noordegraaf that the meeting be adjourned. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.