

Minutes for March EEPSA Executive Meeting
March 9, 2009 5:30pm
Tropika restaurant, 2975 Cambie Street (at 14 Avenue)

In attendance: Selina, Robyn, Jarrid, Johan, Vanessa, Tanya, Bruce, Ficus, Genny, Patrick, Roz, Amanda, Alana, Donna, Lara, Kate, Karen

- 1) Welcome and catching up
- 2) Updates and Discussion
 - a. Member Outreach (5 minutes each)
 - i. Covered throughout minutes
 - b. Ecolacy and publications (SM and LH)
 - i. Lara created new Ecolacy template
 - ii. **Action:** In next edition of Ecolacy add reason why Clearing? has not been provided to members.
 - iii. Recommendations for Ecolacy content: keep ELE link, highlight 1 resource per edition. **Action:** Lara to create a sign up sheet with assigned months and EEPSA executive members. **Action:** Members to choose a resource and write a review and submit for their assigned month.
 - c. Website (JS and JJ)
 - i. Ideas: add calendar of events
 - ii. **Action:** Johan & Jarrid to create Google site for executive to add input regarding content on EEPSA website
 - iii. **Action:** All executive to please send photo of themselves and email address to add to web.
 - d. Membership (GL)
 - i. Approximately 300 members.
 - ii. New magazine arriving soon.
 - e. Brochure (PR and MT)
 - i. Patrick recommended that we spend up to \$200 to have a graphic designer redo the brochure to snazz it up; Patrick motioned to spend the money, Bruce seconded. Motion carried.
 - f. Online communication (VL)
 - i. Vanessa suggested creating an EEPSA site on Facebook. There were some concerns regarding required updates, privacy etc. **Action:** Vanessa to set up facebook site, then in 2-3 months, discuss pros/cons.
- 3) Recent Events
 - a. Children & Nature Conference (JS)
 - i. 2nd annual conference held at Royal Roads Uni.; attendees from across Canada and US; high profile for EEPSA. www.childnature.com – **Action:** Johan to use as first resource in Ecolacy.
 - b. AGM (FC)
 - i. A big thanks to Ficus for his fantastic coordination! Attendees felt that is was great for developing community & networking. **Action:** Ficus and EEPSA reps to present ELE workshop to Grouse staff on Friday, April 3 as a thanks for their incredible hospitality. **Action:** If available to attend or watch ELE, please let Ficus know.

- c. New Teacher's Conference (PR, NM, JS, BF)
 - i. PR partnered with Green Schools (Min.Ed.) to co-present; 24 attended the Friday session; very enthusiastic; mostly from lower mainland; Thanks to Nichole for hosting the EEP SA display on Fri. & Sat.; New teachers liked the GT subscription, resources.
- d. EEP SA LSA update (PR)
 - i. \$1,000 support to LSA's comes from EEP SA budget
 - ii. Kelowna LSA is up and running!
 - iii. Kootenay LSA is looking for financial support – e.g. funds for travelling to AGM – **Action:** Executive to decide how to proceed. E.g. cover funding for 1 person per LSA to attend AGM.

4) Upcoming Events

- a. EECOM in Winnipeg (PR, JJ, BF, DZ, SM, JS)
 - i. EECOM in a national conference for EE; Goal of EECOM: build national capacity; Goal of conference: reach new audiences; 8 organizations from 7 provinces will be attending
- b. Monthly events (VL)
 - i. Goal: networking & socializing in a natural setting; experience new sources for outdoor classrooms
 - ii. How: partner with organizations, connect teachers with 'experts'
 - iii. **Action:** VL to create a spreadsheet and email a call for ideas
 - iv. Ideas: LSCR, tour waste water treatment plant
- c. Grouse ELE (FC and SM)
 - i. As mentioned before, Friday, April 3, ELE will be presented to Grouse staff
- d. Surrey Teachers Association (STA) convention (JS and SM)
 - i. May 1: goal is to plan across the curriculum; green learning in SCI 10 & humanities; Contact Selina for more info.
- e. Interpretation Canada Conference (JJ and VL)
 - i. May 8-10, Cowichan Lake
 - ii. Goal: build capacity of informal educator's to present in classroom (e.g. incorporate pre & post activities, build programs that assist teachers)
 - iii. Jarrid forwarded email with details. If interested in attending, or would like more information, contact Jarrid
 - iv. If interested in viewing 2008 workshop outline, contact Bruce
- f. Get Outdoors resource and pro-d session (BF)
 - i. What is it? Curriculum resource pkg prepared by BC Parks, MV, Wild BC and supported by EEP SA and Min. Ed)
 - ii. Note: this resource is only available via workshop
 - iii. March 25-26: facilitator training for delivery team for MV; there are 2-3 spots for EEP SA; contact Bruce if interested
- g. Sustainable Schools Forum (KK, PR)
 - i. David was MC; great networking opportunities; diversity of attendees including senior management and superintendents; all speaker webcasts and PowerPoint is available on web. Patrick sent email with weblink.
- h. BC Hydro (KK)
 - i. Providing funding for 5 positions for environmental energy

- i. BCTF AGM and proposed Environmental Action Group (KK)
 - i. Sunday, March 15 from 5pm – 1am at Hyatt; Karen suggested some reps attend to support this proposed action group
 - j. Great Escape to Nature Teacher Retreat (BF)
 - i. June 5 – 7, Deas Island; Fri PM: executive fire and camp out; Sat: new members bring friend – use opportunity to recruit for EEPISA; MV to provide programming (in kind – thanks!); only need funds for food **Action:** Bruce to create and forward tentative agenda to executive for review
 - k. Green Games (Kate)
 - i. Approx. 143 projects were submitted from 34 different SD's across BC!; March 27 winner will be announced at Science World
- 5) Financial Updates (NM)
- a. **Action:** Robyn to contact Nichole to receive update and add to minutes
 - b.
- 6) Other Business
- a. ELE Update (PR)
 - i. BC Hydro impressed with ELE guide, video, templates & curriculum guide; suggesting that EEPISA partner for the next step: Web Portal Project
 - ii. Web Portal Project would include community connections, resources and teacher 2.0; executive took a few minutes and brainstormed and provided feedback to Patrick; **Action:** Patrick to create and distribute draft proposal
- 7) Next meeting: April 7; **Action:** Send Selina meeting location suggestions