**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Committee Name**: Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee

**Date:** April 4th, 2017

**Time:** 6:30 P.M.

**Present:**  Catherine Leighton (TRCA), Jessie Sawyers (Teacher Candidate, OISE), Kristen Schaffer (Teacher Candidate, OISE), Bob Spencer (Beach Community Energy Co-operative), Linda-Sue Thomas (Retired TDSB Principal), Hilary Inwood (Lecturer, OISE), Debby Martin (Manager, Evergreen), Kristen Schwartz (Assistant Manager, CultureLink), and Lisa Milne (Community Member)

**TDSB:** Richard Christie (Senior Manager, Sustainability Office), Kristen Evers (Green Projects Team Leader, Sustainability Office), Esther Collier (Teacher), Peyton Leung (Teacher), and Kathryn Winton (Teacher)

**Guests:** Allan Collier (Community Member), and Rachelle Winton-Dean (Community Member)

**Recorder:** Serita Lawson (Business Process Analyst, Sustainability Office)

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| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **RECOMMENDATION/MOTION** |
| Call to Order/Quorum | Meeting called to order at 6:37 P.M.  Welcome and introductions. |  |
| Approval of March 7th Minutes | The minutes of March 7th, 2017 were approved. |  |
| Summary of ESAC/Environmental Report Brainstorm from March 7, 2017 | Kristen Evers reviewed the Board’s motion for a new Environment Report and provided a draft version that has been prepared by staff (see attached).    Serita Lawson instructed members to break into three smaller groups to identify gaps in the draft Environmental Report, and discuss new possibilities that might be addressed.  **Big Ideas from Group Discussions:**  ***Motion 1*** *- A plan for increasing waste diversion, including metrics and costs, as well as quantitative goals for the future*   * Capture textile waste at schools via lost and founds, and encourage clothing swaps * Create a reward and fine model to insure items are being recycled * Make textile idea more generic to include other sources of waste (e.g., Crayola markers, old technology, library books) * Involve caretakers in teaching others * Caretakers should get retrained when needed * Help caretakers move up the ladder (e.g., AQ course) * Get caretaker input in improving waste management at schools   ***Motion 2*** *- A plan to increase recognition of the board’s EcoSchools, including ways to encourage further participating of schools that are currently not EcoSchools, and for those that are EcoSchools, a higher level of certification*   * Develop an online forum for teachers to share ideas * Align EcoSchools with the Ontario Ministry of Environment curriculum * Environmental Policy must explicitly require SIPs to mention the environment * Mentorship pilot should include vice-principals, caretakers, teachers, and office administrators * Increase incentives for new EcoSchools * Mandate that P.D. training and staff meeting agendas address eco issues * Connect with other focus areas (e.g., truth and reconciliation, or healthy schools)   ***Motion 3*** *- A plan to raise awareness of the board’s environmental policy, the importance of environmental actions and initiatives to students and school-based leaders, that is, principals and superintendents, in order to encourage them to provide leadership to schools, so that schools would undertake regular environmental initiatives in keeping with the request of the SuperCouncil*   * EcoSchools need a public relations person * Clearly link all communications about EcoSchools to the Board’s 3 pillars (i.e., Achievement, Wellbeing, and Equity) * Mobilize student leaders to meet with senior staff or influencers to promote the program * Plan must emphasise community action | Sustainability Office staff will consider ESAC suggestions when making revisions to the new Environment Report |
| Introduction to OPAL | Kristen Schaffer informed the committee that Earth Day Canada and Evergreen will be delivering presentations on outdoor learning to deliver a presentation of their OPAL program at the next May ESAC meeting.  Earth Day Canada will be introducing the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) program which supports children in unstructured and unscripted outdoor play by providing them with materials (loose parts) to explore their school grounds.  Currently there are six pilot schools in the Board that are engaged in the OPAL program.  The ESAC Community Co-Chairs suggested that the committee may want to explore writing a Play Policy that could be presented to the Board of Trustees, to help support teachers in promoting outdoor learning. |  |
| New Business | Bob Spencer shared information on an upcoming Eco Fair being held at L’Amoreaux Collegiate Institute on April 22nd, 2017 (see attached).    During the week of April 10th, 2017, the Eco Fair team will be canvassing the neighborhood to rally support. | Volunteers are needed to assist with tallying attendees and distributing posters on the day of the event. Contact Kristen Schaffer if you are interested in volunteering. |
| Next Meeting Date | May 2nd, 2017 at 5050 Yonge (Committee Room A) |  |
| Adjournment | Meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M. |  |