

MEEA BOD Meeting

4/3/2021

9-11am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92961862846?pwd=ZTFxRWRGd2lIdnB2TFgwaDJLVGk1dz09>

Meeting ID: 929 6186 2846

Passcode: meea

Log your March 2021 MEEA hours (including this meeting [here](#))

In attendance: Laura Seger, Laurie Davis, Erin Graves, Joan Ruppert, Tonia Scherer, Christine Li, Sarah Holmes, Lesli Moylan

Unable to attend: Jeff Birchler, Jill Hollowell, Jen Schamber

9:00 Welcome and Check In prompt (Sarah)

What does spring make you look forward to?

- Erin excited about the MS River Plastic Pol'n Initiative, school/community embracing the project!
 - ConspiraSea, new movie (Netflix) re: plastics in ocean and where they come from
- Tonia--huge increase in for new gardens workwise, camping personal
- Laurie--field trips happening again, Springfield cleanup events; biking! And warm weather
- Laura--work still virtual, bummer, until spring 2022; being outside and camping
- Joan--looking forward to face to face and warmer weather
- Christine--Mizzou will be back in person by May 17 mixed feelings, summer virtual though; puppy is turning 1 and able to join more hikes!!
- Sarah, looking forward to mowing, high school graduation for daughter, some outdoor activities with students (optional but allowed!)
- Lesli --moving forward with MEEA, looking forward to a vaccine,

Updated BOD Handbook for reference

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VZ6J_v_Lah5Ba_H3m-Y7MisjXP-DYPIgaVgeyMCB6no/edit?usp=sharing

- Board responsibilities: Policy and Priorities; Fiduciary oversight (responsible w money and supportive of mission); Strategy
 - Balance that the board is all volunteer too

9:10 [Approve Minutes](#) (Lesli)

Laura motioned, Erin seconded, approved

9:15 Finances

- Laurie will give her first quarterly Treasurer's report in May

- Questions you want to have answered with that?
- Laurie--wants to be able to communicate to the BOD our budget with practical application (gap areas in our budget)
 - What story does our money tell?
- Income (Lesli)
 - VMEs
 - Two potential grants-Tabitha
 - [Alchemy donation](#)- received \$1500 donation, they help support alternative energy. Lesli is setting up a meeting with the CEO.
 - **Corporate Office**
 - 909 East Republic Rd, Unit F-100
 - Springfield, MO 65807
 - 417-319-3035
 - CEO-Lacie Clark
 - Address to the Springfield Team
 - Lesli write thank you to Lacy Clarke (donated to our CFO fund)
 - Memberships-they rolling in!

9:20 Other Updates

- [MOLEAP](#) Blocks- Lesli*
 - DESE has some blocks for teachers to incorporate science with other disciplines
 - Mizzou has one about pollinators that DES promotes
 - Erin willing to take the lead Action idea: Erin and Lesli will set up a call each other to plan
- Conferences- Lesli/Laurie
 - Conference planning for 2021 has started. It will be virtual and a collaboration with KAEE again. Will also use the accelevants platform again and it will be a fully virtual conference. Last year we made more money than we ever have! Covering costs was due to sponsorships. Let's get more!
 - We are miles ahead of where we were for the last conference, so Laurie is awesome. Thanks Laurie
 - Theme is EE is for Everyone Everywhere
 - Date is first week in November 3-6- W,TH, Fr and Saturday is in person with possible regional events.
 - Social events were a hit last year and will be done again this year.
 - [Sustainability Institute for Educators](#) in June
- Certification- Tonia
 - Had first meeting, 5 people (Tonia, Geoff Stilwels, Sydney B, John Sode, Anna K. and Joan Ruppert)
 - Goal: increase appeal of program, looking at other affiliate programs
 - Will meet again in April
 - Will it work with MO Open Initiative PD tracking
 - Christine- good program for undergraduate students, there is potential for integration here. Christine would like to work on this too.
- JEDI Work Group - Laura Seger JEDI=Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion
 - 7 people working on this, met twice, went to NAAEE events

- Working on vocabulary concepts for common use
- New Mexico is moving forward and are a great example.
- Environmental Justice webinar from Wash U was also good
- Does our mission reflect how we feel about these issues?
- Access is the first step- should our mission reflect this? Is our mission inclusive?
- EE or nature and health?- changing the language so it is more inclusive
- Laura shared info with Lesli and Laura's notes will be in the [MEEA drive](#).-
- [Screening and Mapping tool https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen](https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen)
- MGS-Erin/Lesli
 - Adapted Mission and Vision
 - **Vision:** All Missouri schools are places that promote equitable and sustainable environments that ensure the overall health and wellbeing of their community.
 - **Mission:** To support all Missouri schools in taking a systems-based approach to identify and advance practices throughout their campuses, educational programming, and school culture that reduce environmental impact, improve health and wellness, and provide place-based education.
 - Hannah Carter is the facilitator, vistas shared the how to guides with different metrics.
 - [MGS mind map](#)- shared by Erin
- MEEA Mini-grants-Lesli
 - Due April 15 and we need to decide by May 15.
 - Who helps review: Sarah, Joan, Laura

9:40 Dynamic Governance training--Laura/Sarah

- Will take place at our next BOD meeting or right after (2 hour training)
- From our facilitator, Hannah Hemmelgarn: Here are some topics we could work through if you want to share this with the group for feedback. I see these as somewhat sequential:
- Self-awareness and reflexivity, towards relationality and complete groups – identity and group composition reflection
- Nonviolent Communication (NVC) basics – practice process using observations/feelings/needs/requests
- Restorative Justice tools – facilitation, listening and hearing, finding resolution via commitment to action
- Dynamic Governance/ sociocracy – leaderfull group process, equivalence of voice, relevant practice session

9:45 Grow Native! Opportunity

- Anyone interested in being a beta-tester for their new native plant professional certification program? (Lesli)*--Laura, Erin, Tonia
- [MoIP Cease the Sale Feedback](#) (Sarah)*
 - Their initiative to figure out which plants on the above list to include in a bill to ban their sales in MO

- if you know of the plants on the list, put an x by that plant name

9:50 [Newsletter Article Signup](#)

(Lesli)*

10:00 MELAB Discussion (Missouri Environmental Literacy Advisory Board)--Lesli/Sarah

- Original Purpose
 - Increase participants' awareness and knowledge of what others are doing in Missouri
 - Increase the number of acquaintances or contacts each person has
 - Work on common goals and objectives identified by participants: standards and assessments, green schools, green career pathways, inspiring stewardship
- Shift to MGS Partner Network for 4 meetings, final one in May 2021
 - As part of the MGS Expansion Grant, it was determined that 4 MELAB meetings would be devoted entirely to the development of a MGS Regional Partner Network. The May 2021 meeting is the 4th of these 4 meetings.
 - While still in development, the big goal for the Regional Partner Network is to develop resource hubs throughout the state of Missouri which will support PK-12 schools by connecting them with local resources that can help them achieve the three pillars that MGS is built upon: reducing environmental impact and cost, improving health and wellness of students and staff, and increasing environmental/sustainability literacy.
 - Ideally, partners in the network will be highlighted in an online resource directory, and we are hoping to also engage them in helping to map out existing resources and gaps, as well as seeking out ways to fill the gaps.
 - Attendees of the MELAB meetings represent organizations that would be a part of the Regional Partner Network and would help to further build the network out.
 - [Ecorise](#) will be its own thing separate from MELAB
- Now what?
 - Return to MELAB 2x/year?
 - 1 per year just for networking, if projects bubble up, we could support but not lead. We can only do so much.
 - Or has the original purpose been met and/or the work being done elsewhere (committees, MGS....)?
 - Other thoughts?
 - Joan- was it meant to be a temporary consortium?
 - Is there a duplication of efforts? MEEA has been running the meetings
 - Laurie-original components seem to be absorbed in other things, like MGS
 - Chrstine- good network to grow new initiatives- would it be helpful to stay on because it is a state level agency? It provides good opportunity but most were for MGS. Time to dedicate one MELAB for MGS and the other meeting could be for other things? Ex. recycling or green careers
 - Can we put it in the conference?

- Laura--value in MELAB, intensive all-day, likes the idea of putting a day prior to the conference
- Proposal: MELAB held one day prior to the start of our conference, MGS statewide convening 1x/year as well to replace the MELAB 2x/year model
 - Could potentially include a virtual 6-month MELAB convening at 6-month mark (not in year 1, but add if needed in year 2)
 - Good place to evaluate and try this
 - Can go back to old way if we don't like it
 - Worth trying, want to reflect on it after
 - Can't be everything to everyone, provides an opportunity for others to pick up the baton if desired
 - Want to keep MELAB (for those not in MGS), like the full day idea
 - MELAB Nov. 2, 2-5 pm

10:45 Next Meetings (Sarah)

- Check in with new directors about Saturdays, do we need to revert to evenings or weekdays?
 - May 15, 8:30-11 am
 - June 8, 4-6 pm, every 2nd tuesday
 -
- Annual Retreat?
 -

10:55 Closing Round (Feedback on meeting)