

Minutes
CLRSS Education Committee Meeting

Monday, January 11 at 4:00p.m.
Country Grocer Board Room
Chair: Leroy Van Wieren

In attendance: Leroy Van Wieren, Diana Gunderson, Maureen Quested, Nicole Boucher, Jean Atkinson

Guests: Sandy Cumming, Caroline Thom

Absent with regrets: Mike Bishop, Lois Atchison, Genevieve Singleton, Parker Jefferson

- **Gerald Thom Environmental Studies Bursary – Revision to 2016**

Discussion held on several different options for changes to the Bursary. The committee agreed to keep it “local” meaning to stay within the LCS and not to the broader District. It is local, therefore no motion required to change. Due to the low number of students that will be eligible for the bursary the committee felt that one bursary of \$1000 would be better rather than trying to give 2 bursaries at \$750 each.

Action: Motion for next Board Meeting – “To change the Gerald Thom Memorial Bursary from 2 bursaries per year at \$750 each to 1 bursary per year at \$1000.”

Action: Leroy to update the Bursary document and distribute the Education committee and send a final version to Tara at LCS.

Action: Leroy to circulate the Bursary Brochure that was drafted in 2015 to determine if we still want to proceed.

- **Status of prior education/awareness ideas:**

1. Weather Station at LCS? **ACTION: Nicole.** Weather station still on Nicole’s list and continue to pursue. Leroy bought the “Ambient Weather Station – WS1001-WIFI Observer” and can hook up to Wunderground. The www.wunderground.com website is a way to integrate and track personal weatherstations worldwide.

2. Status of LCS Nursery. Noni Battye is the teacher who has taken the lead role in ensuring the success of the schools nursery. It was suggested there are likely some really good synergies to be gained by sharing the thoughts and expertise of various people with respect to the nursery particularly as it relates to native species and how the CLRSS would use the nursery plants in their field work. For example, Jean Atchison, Diana Gunderson, Noni Battye, Ken Elliot, Ray Mullen, Mandy and Christine Brophy. **ACTION: Nicole to ask Noni to call a meeting.**

3. Solicit high school students to help with Lake water quality monitoring at specific locations. Once per week for about 2 hours from May to September. Gord Davidson has agreed to coordinate the volunteers and would be the key contact. **ACTION: Gord Davidson** to develop a water monitoring schedule and send to LCS (Nicole Boucher) so students can “sign up” to help.

2. Educational Activities already under way:

List brainstormed at the meeting:

- River Clean Up
- Brochures – CLRSS, Riparian, Boater Awareness
- CLRSS attendance at different events (mushroom and salmon, Honeymoon bay, lake days, parade, Saywell Park cleanup and planting, etc.)
- Website and related links
- CSSP lake owner face to face visits
- Stream signage
- Respect Signs
- Boat Ramp Blitz with RCMP
- Conferences
- Genevieve's Nature Studies with students
- LCS activities (weather station, nursery, water testing, water monitoring, help work on sites)
- Talking with Scouts organization
- Facebook
- Newsletters
- Observe, Record Report (ORR) program
- Riparian Tours
- Maintenance Brochure

• New Action Items (Report back to Board) :

1. Mushroom and Salmon Festival:

Dec. 8, 2015 Minutes: We agreed that: At present we are concentrating on the riparian foreshore discussion at the festival. Our continued and expanded presence at the festival is an opportunity for CLRSS to “shine” and there are other obvious ways that we can expand our involvement. Festival participant’s tours were discussed. Visiting the CSSP projects including Saywell Park, could be appropriate.

Jan. 11 Discussion held. The Education committee supports the request for additional support to the Festival provided that: a.) the tour is minimal and close by (e.g. Saywell Park) and b.) that someone from CLRSS capable of giving the tour is willing and available. **ACTION: Leroy/Diana** to bring response to the Board.

2. “RESPECT SIGNAGE”: Nov. 2, 2015 Minutes: The Issue of vandalism to the CLRSS “Respect” signs – Rosemary Danaher reported that 5 of the 7 signs have been lost. Previously Gerald Thom had removed the signs (made from Chloroplast) during the harsh winter months, returning them in the spring of each year. This did not occur in 2014 and likely contributed to their loss.

Jan. 11 Discussion Held. There was strong support from this committee to continue to the idea of using “RESPECT” signage in some way. Many ideas started flowing, but time ran short.

ACTION Leroy. Dedicate most of the next Education Committee meeting to brainstorming and developing a new way of keeping this concept alive while respecting the past like the Otter sayings and the Otter drawings. Bring flip charts or a big white board too.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.