

SLC Youth Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Meeting called to order: 4:03 pm

Attendance: Abby Hughes, Alexa Backus, Drew, Amanda Woods, Cole Siebels, Ellen Hurlbut, Emma, Hailey Williamson, Nicole A. Terminelli, Rebekah Zuhlsdorf, Adam Simmons

- Approval for January Meeting Minutes (Motion to Approve: Drew, Second: Hailey Williamson) - Motion Passed
- Adam Simmons - Director of SLC Bureau of Weights and Measures
 - email: adamsimmons@stlawco.org
- Cornell Cooperative Extension - Healthy Snacks
 - About 20 students participated
 - 3rd to 8th grade age group
 - Ideas or Suggestions for future workshops for older age groups
- Office for the Aging - Valentine's Day Card Drive
 - 3,000+ Cards Collected!
 - even more successful than Holiday Card Drive
 - Watertown Daily Times interviewed Junior about 300+ cards made with mom
- Office for the Aging - Pen Pal Card Drive
 - Senior citizens and student pen pal communication
 - Intergenerational connection, especially through the isolation of the pandemic
 - Classroom interest - four different teachers with multiple classes
 - Each student matched with seniors
 - Working harder to get seniors involved, youth interest is there already
 - Safety Measures:
 - Everything streamlined through SLC Youth Bureau
 - Online registration
 - Anonymous communication
 - Spread the word! Tell friends and family about this great opportunity
- Environmental Management Council (EMC) thought Trash Dash Environmental Clean-Up Challenge was a great idea
 - Pat Whalen - Chair of Conservation of Resources,
 - Upcoming meeting date and contact information will be provided soon
 - Partnering for Earth Day and EMC 50th Anniversary
- Drew - Slides Presentation - Reducing Carbon Footprint in SLC
 - EPA Carbon Footprint Calculator - personal improvement in terms of modes of transportation, homes, and products
 - Transportation: reduce using personal vehicles; carpool, bike, take public transportation when possible
 - Home: shut off lights, turn off electronics when not in use, dry clothes outdoors in summer; power bills will be cheaper as well
 - Clean Energy: Alternative energy options in SLC, links provided on slide

- Miscellaneous: cut down on single-use plastics (i.e. water bottles), further education, shop locally at farmer's markets
 - switch web browser to Ecosia (available on Apple, Android, and computers, 119 million trees planted and counting from revenue, financially transparent)
- Ethical Businesses in SLC - further research needed, will be helpful when prepping for the upcoming Trash Dash
- Reading List:
 - Eaarth by Bill McKibbin
 - How to Give Up Plastic by Will McCallum
 - Don't Even Think About It by George Marshall
 - Open to further suggestions (i.e. children's books)
- Alexa - ways to make workshop engaging for all ages, family audiences
 - Asking audience questions for open discussion
 - Kid-Friendly: more youth-focused books
- Cole - collect visuals of problems in SLC for presentation, a good tactic for getting engagement from the audience
 - Youth members: take pictures of trash on trails
 - bottle redemption water bottle visual in our low population county, multiply those numbers, could be a stark reminder for people
 - Nicole - rural counties - aging municipal water facilities, not safe for consumption all the time, brings attention to other issues that we face
 - Adam - non-point source contamination, residential wells or salt barns, lot of people who can't or don't know that they should be utilizing water from those places
 - Alexa - Brita water filters can be helpful, reusable water bottles are important
- Workshop Dates:
 - Alexa - Earth Day, Thursday, April 22, 2021
 - Nicole - Multiple workshops highlighted in tandem with EMC or another environmental group throughout the entire month of April
- Trash Dash 5K Global Youth Service Day, Saturday, April 24th or Sunday, April 25th, or both
 - Open to all in St. Lawrence County
 - Online Registration Form to get teams signed up
 - Local Print Shops for T-Shirts
 - Giving out Tree Saplings possibly, Arbor Day on April 24th
 - Flyer Design - Abby will work on creating a design for early next week
 - Hashtag for social media engagement - #SLCTrashDash
 - Adam - utilize county heavyweight scale, offered a trailer and truck to collect and appropriately dispose of trash, a couple of different locations, by team choice if they make it competitive in this respect
- Next Meeting: March 24, 2021

Meeting Adjourned: 5:12 pm