

Nevada Tahoe Leadership Group Meeting

14Jan2003, Donald W. Reynolds Nonprofit Center, 4:00-6:00 pm

Attendees: Jenny Francis (Marine Research & Education), John Cobourn (University of Nevada Cooperative Extension), Heather Segale (Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition), Jan Howell (Incline Elementary School), Sue Jacox (Great Basin Outdoor School), D.C. Larrabee (Incline Elementary School and many other hats), Dan Allison (Adopt-A-Watershed)

Agenda Outline

1. updates
2. pick one thing
3. leadership development (community needs, agreements, decision making process, shared facilitation, vision, action plan, reflection)
4. retreat
5. AAW Leadership Institute 2005? (2004 possible)
6. reflection

Meeting Notes

Meetings: With only four people in attendance at the beginning of the meeting and three more arriving late, the topic of discussion for the first part of the meeting was how to ensure that we have a high level of participation and commitment from the group. People felt there may have been some confusion about the date, and people may have forgotten the meeting after the rush of the holidays. In order to have successful meetings in the future, Dan (as the Adopt-A-Watershed [AAW] Regional Coordinator supporting the group) will:

1. Make sure that meeting dates are set no later than the previous meeting and well known to the group.
2. Remind the group of meetings about one week beforehand, and call all participants to remind them.
3. Distribute a meeting agenda about one week beforehand.
4. Schedule a meeting place. For the time being, meetings will be at the Donald W. Reynolds Nonprofit Center in Incline Village, but in the future we may meet at schools, agencies or organizations to become more familiar with area resources.
5. Provide some snack food for the group.
6. Maintain an email discussion group on EdGateway for use of the group.

NDEP Grant: Heather and John feel that there must be a clear structure and high level of commitment from people here in order to go forward with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) Nonpoint Source (319) grant. The grant is due some time in the spring and would cover a variety of needs including a community coordinator. John asked: why a community coordinator? What does it do for us? We talked about some of the things a coordinator might do, including working directly with schools in the classroom and on field trips with service learning for restoration, training teachers who are not yet familiar with place-based learning (PBL) ways of presenting science and other content standards, communicating between schools and the land management agencies, developing info for districts which show the alignment between PBL activities and standards, developing replacement units which cover the same content as textbooks but use the Tahoe/Truckee environment and community as the context, and many other ideas. There was an agreement that 20 to 30 hours a week and \$12 to \$16 per hour should be planned for a

coordinator. We discussed but did not decide on the idea of two coordinators, one for the northeast shore (Incline, etc.) and one for the southeast shore (Zephyr Cove, etc.). We came back to the NDEP discussion again during the update section.

Updates

1. NSTA (Jenny): several group members attended the National Science Teachers Association convention in December in Reno to host the Project Learning Tree (PLT) table, good for the table people, but not a lot of contacts, not that many local people, was mostly middle/high
2. Teacher recruitment: none, Jan Howell came
3. Teach Tahoe: (Heather) there was a meeting in December to discuss development and use of the Teach Tahoe curriculum, that group decided to have teacher stipends to write curriculum lessons around each video topic, D.C. interested in project and has worked some already, minor funding available
4. IVGID (Jenny for Sarah): Rosewood Creek was adopted as the lead project, Sarah may wish Dan to lead some activities there. The project would include monitoring, erosion control, trail building and signage on the site, and complementary classroom activities.
5. Demo garden (John): at Sierra Nevada College lake campus, "North Lake Tahoe Demo Garden," to address Best Management Practices (BMP), defensible space, stream environment zone (SEZ) protection, interpretative signing, maybe service project next fall
6. Reading Circles (Jenny): a reading circle group has been established and had its first meeting, seven participants on "Discovering a Sense of Place", Jenny wants to start a similar group in south Tahoe and other groups will be started in the future in other communities around the lake
7. TIIMS/LTEEC (Heather): The Tahoe Integrated Information Management System (TIIMS, currently at < <http://tiims.org/>> is a project to make all information about the lake available in one location. Trisha York from TRPA is presenting on TIIMS at Lake Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition (LTEEC) Steering Committee on this Friday, some info is already there; TRPA could do group training on TIIMS for teachers and others; Heather, Jill and Christine have provided data; Heather is on project team so we can provide feedback to her; input of NV info could be an early project of the NV team.
8. AAW Leadership Institute (Dan and Heather): The AAW Leadership Institute will be held July 15-24, 2004, probably at Bass Lake on the west slope of the Sierra. There is an interest from some in the group in attending. The fee is \$25K per team, or \$2-3K per person, depending on the number on the team. The institute focuses on leadership development, but also includes hands-on skills in water monitoring and in developing and teaching lesson plans that use the AAW PBL model, and cultural competency skills and techniques. It is likely that there will be a group attending from north Tahoe and Truckee, composed of some individuals who have attended before and many new people from the Tahoe Truckee Service Learning Partnership. Dan will contact that group to see if Nevada side people could join that team if there is some interest from the Nevada side but not enough to generate a separate team. It will be necessary this year for any individual attending to come up with their own funding, from their agency, school, organization or self. In future years there might be some grant funding to supplement individual funding, but it will likely be a largely "pay-your-own-way" situation.
9. NDEP grant: This item again became our major topic of discussion, continued below.

NDEP Grant

We are not sure of deadline, RFP not out yet. John would feel sufficient in moving forward if a lot of letters came in supporting and *committing* from this group and others in community

ACTION: Jan said that she could get two letters from Incline

ACTION: Jenny will find a person in Douglas to support

ACTION: Heather and Dan will come up with on page summary of the activities of the NDEP grant

ACTION: group members will send Dan possible contacts so we have a unified list, and will contact everyone who they think could provide a letter of support or commitment

ACTION: Heather and John will provide a template letter of support so that group members can use this in contacting people, organizations, schools and agencies for support

ACTION: Dan will talk to Mary Kay Riedl of NDEP

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Nevada Tahoe Leadership group will be Wednesday, February 18, 2004, 4:00 to 6:00 pm, at the Donald W. Reynolds Nonprofit Center in Incline Village. [Note: the meeting may be rescheduled to an earlier date; we will let everyone know.]

The main topic of discussion will be the NDEP grant. Other topics will be: Incline Village GID sponsored project at Rosewood Creek, the AAW Leadership Institute, the Teach Tahoe curriculum, expanding our team to be more inclusive, particularly of teachers, developing leadership within the team, operating agreements, and future meetings.

The group challenge still stands: bring at least one teacher from the community with you to the next meeting, focusing particularly on increasing participation from Douglas county schools.