**Agenda for 10/17/2016 Meeting**

**Place-based Education Meeting**

**Expected in Attendance-**

Betsy Stacey, Miranda Nelken, Samantha Sintros,Dan Heath, Seth Andrews, Liza Lowe, Paul Bocko, Lenoir MacDougal, Jesslyn Mullett

**Welcome:**

Give your name and something you saw/heard about/experienced in Place-based Education this fall (or summer) that you want to share.

**Three Possible Opportunities that we have been investigating:**

Summarize what we have learned about the three possible opportunities for Place-based Education Professional Development in the coming year.

1. Shelburne Farms
2. Antioch New England
3. Upper Valley Place-based Ecology Education Initiative

**Shelburne Farms:**

**Play Video:** <http://www.shelburnefarms.org/our-work/for-educators-schools/professional-development-for-educators> (unless all have seen it already)

There is a lot of information on the websites above. Here are a couple of highlights from our conversation with Jen Cirillo.

* Shelburne Farms Professional Development uses the UbD format in their curriculum design
* It would make sense for us to send a group of at least 5 people from our region/ PBEd committee.
* In Marlow, Walter did the following with Shelburne Farms, however they are a small school and I think our situation would look a little different.
	+ Team of 2 went to the summer prof. Dev program in Shelburne.
	+ Walter is involved in their leadership program
	+ They now have a “coach” for support.
	+ S.F. also did a site visit and met with the staff and the Marlow school board
* **Cost and Funding for Shelburne Farms Summer PD**-
	+ Normally the summer program is $600 and then another $600 for graduate credit from Johnson State
	+ We can share how much PD money is available per person and then S. F. will see how they can help with the cost, there is rarely help with grad credits but they may be able to offer housing for free, or the course for free, or at a discount.
	+ Last year there was a grant from “Jane’s Trust”, a small family foundation, that covered the cost for all NH, Maine and VT educators! Jen will know in January if that is an option this year.
	+ It may make sense to go to Shelburne Farms with a team from the Keene region this coming summer, and then after that summer, plan the next summer’s Keene-based professional development with help from Antioch and support from our new contacts.
	+ Dates: most likely the summer professional development that would be July 24-28, this is their “Education for Sustainability” course, it would cover other things then specifically Place-based Ed, like Farm to School, Sustainability, and Global Warming. There are other offerings too that would be better for pre-school teachers or Farm to School specialists.
* **Antioch New England**
	+ **Antioch New England would be happy to help design/implement place-based education professional development**
	+ Antioch can draw on their Educating for Sustainability and Environmental Education graduate programs, place-based education courses, and Antioch Center for School Renewal (the outreach organization of the Education Department).
	+ The benefit of working with Antioch is that they are local, which is very important in the field of Place-based learning.
	+ There is potential for ongoing professional development that extends beyond residential workshops and institutes to ongoing interaction with teachers throughout the school year.
	+ Antioch already offers the following and could offer more:
		- Natural History for Early Childhood (took place in mid-Oct)
		- A weekend course called Landscape Analysis and Design for Nature Play.
		- A Place-based Social Studies course in the summer
	+ **Antioch intern to work with the Place Based Ed Committee?** We could get an Antioch student to do the initial work of putting together examples of Place-based lesson plans from the Keene Area, we can start out by reaching out through this committee and then go from there. (see more notes on this below)
	+ **More notes from Paul Bocko re. Antioch**- There is an opportunity for Antioch to design professional development in PBEd with coaching throughout the year. We discussed meeting with the grant developer at Antioch to decide how to proceed on this. Paul will also email courses that are available around Place-based, Nature based teaching. He also specifically mentioned Horatio Colony field trips that are limited but free to classrooms. He also is presenting to SCA in North Charlestown for their volunteers to go out into classrooms. So they may be another organization for us to connect to.
* **Upper Valley Place-based Ecology Education Initiative**
	+ This is an initiative that is working with schools in the Upper Valley (Claremont, Newport, Mascoma) They also have an intensive summer program and perhaps we could also send teachers along with the others. They develop units with teachers and then follow up.
	+ Currently those 3 schools are covered because of a grant from the Wellborn Ecology Fund, perhaps we could just jump in with them at little cost
	+ Joan Haley and Lisa Purrell are the Coordinators (they also work with Four-Winds Environmental Ed, previously the ELF program from VINS and Marsh-Billings National Site)
	+ Part of mission is “to identify ways in which hands-on, place-based approaches can enhance curriculum, pedagogy and student engagement and learning, particularly related to implementing Common Core and Next Generation Science standards.”
	+ This program is very focused on the new NGSS- (Next Generation Science Standards)
* **Next Steps**
	+ Make a list of who is interested in professional development, overnight or otherwise.
	+ Try to get representation from a varieties of schools in the district and have them attend trainings as teams so that they have support when they return to their school. Can anyone name some schools we have no contact with?
	+ Ecoschools, USA - Could be a helpful resource as well, they support people in NH

**Potential Nature Conservancy Grant:**

This grant was brought to our attention from Katrina Farmer of the Monadnock Conservancy.

The email below came from Mari Brunner

Mari Brunner, Planner

[Southwest Region Planning Commission](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.swrpc.org_&d=DQMFAg&c=LplZI7q-MMYda7tnlrL8vEF6RPY5SrwTxEcwh1Zui3c&r=aL5DK8DnbILU1Rdy_2YEC7_qro5uI6s-cL7al9fNjUQ&m=SD85F3H8QX28u9GO7J1YUPtD3lOEQqJCjJqx1bfDx94&s=66YtwOy3krQsjb0Yur_zmVksB3d-Ca4ptlxy6mPExqc&e=)

mbrunner@swrpc.org

(603) 357-0557

[https://www.natureworkseverywhere.org/grants/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.natureworkseverywhere.org_grants_&d=DQMFAg&c=LplZI7q-MMYda7tnlrL8vEF6RPY5SrwTxEcwh1Zui3c&r=aL5DK8DnbILU1Rdy_2YEC7_qro5uI6s-cL7al9fNjUQ&m=SD85F3H8QX28u9GO7J1YUPtD3lOEQqJCjJqx1bfDx94&s=QQXnOf30bvJgo1J6OARnf7fezOJ6letEXrZg8c4A1Jw&e=).

The Grants are for $5000.

The Nature Conservancy is awarding grants to support projects that implement green infrastructure to address local environmental challenges. These include access to healthy food, air quality, heat island effect, climate change, or storm water collection. Young people will work as social innovators to help their communities through project design and implementation.

**Database Discussion-**

Database of place-based curriculum is still a priority of this group. Perhaps there could be an internship through the EE Dept at Antioch maybe we could combine someone helping with the Trail Ambassadors group at KMS, and helping to create the database of curriculum and helping to create a list of all the resources for Place-based Education in the region, then the next step would be how to disburse the info that we have gathered.

The group then had an overarching discussion about the Place Based Education and how often it is already being done and it doesn’t need to be a huge year-long unit but can be interspersed throughout the curriculum.