**Place Based Educators Meeting 6/14/2017 3:30 PM**

**Keene Middle School Library**

In attendance- Lenoir MacDougal, Betsy Stacey, Willow Nilsen, Paul Bocko, Seth Andrews, Walter Huston, Miranda Nelken, Mary Grove, David Sobel, Katrina Farmer, Liza Lowe, Jennie Friedman

**Names and updates**

**Announcements- *Distant Hill Gardens*** <https://www.distanthillgardens.org/>

The Monadnock Conservancy has recently been working with Distant Hill Gardens in Walpole. They are a great place to visit, they have tours and programs and a good website to check out.

**Quick Updates about Shelburne Farms Professional Development (Betsy)** - Education for Sustainability Immersion- “For those wishing to dive deeply into their education for sustainability work in a residential, retreat-like setting at Shelburne Farms.”

* Who is going this year? Lenoir McDougal, Betsy Stacey, Seth Andrews, Carol Menke Keefe, Willow Nilsen, Dan Heath, Liza Lowe
* How can we share what we learn? (If we write curriculum during the training it can be shared)
* This is likely something that can happen for multiple years. (If grants continue) Otherwise $375 ($350 were covered for each of us this year)
* Discussed generating a critical mass of teachers who are interested in Place-based education , opportunity to collaborate
* We could write something about it for the SAU newsletter or Education section of the The Sentinel
* Willow Nilsen was also awarded a Teaching Climate Change Fellowship from Shelburne Farms and she will keep us posted.
* Marlow staff going to Shelburne training as a whole staff next year
* Leadership academy- Not designed for administrators necessarily- teacher leaders- 4 times a year- 10 days $1600

**Antioch Professional Development-** Place-based, Nature-Based Classes- Discount for First Time enrollees (can be a non-matriculated student)

For more info - [www.antioch.edu/new-england/resources/community-resources/continuing-education-programs/available-classes/](http://www.antioch.edu/new-england/resources/community-resources/continuing-education-programs/available-classes/)

**Monadnock Progressive Alliance's Education Committee Information (Liza)**

* The Monadnock Progressive Alliance’s (MPA) Education Committee is very active in the community
* Our committee agreed that there should be more collaboration
* There needs to be communication with them, especially since they are so active right now
* David Sobel will be meeting with them anyway, so he can talk to them about the work we have been doing.

**Fall conference on Place-based Education at Antioch** **(Paul and Sobel)**

* Being planned now, Antioch would like some of this group as presenters if you are interested contact Paul Bocko.
* In Bloom- Early Childhood conference - about 20 times in and around New England <https://www.antioch.edu/new-england/resources/community-resources/continuing-education-programs/in-bloom-conferences/>
* In new funding cycle part of it is to extend nature-based/place-based education up through the older years- elementary
* Date set- Location tentative- In Keene- Saturday- 21st of October
* This will be a great conference to attend
* Paul Bocko and Ellen Doris are coordinators.
* What kind of workshops are you looking for?
	+ Practical - how teachers use the outside to form and shape curriculum, go through what you do with your own students, it is possible to drive to other local sites for a workshop, they are an hour and ½, the idea is to get participants to actually do the curriculum.
		- Brainstorming on who to ask- Sam Sintros, Cornucopia Project Peterborough, Betsy- Nature Writing, 3 teachers at Marlow, Antioch is willing to help teachers develop their program, Monadnock Farm and Community Connection- NH Harvest of the Month program- (Coop, Keene Community Kitchen involved with this)
* There will be a morning keynote and afternoon keynote and then workshops in between.

**New Green Schools digital journal called Catalyst (David)**

* David Sobel is on the Editorial Board.
* Subscriptions- free digital subscription- David can share a link to get a free subscription to everyone on our email list for this PBEd committee
* Walter is writing an article for the next issue (September- Journey of becoming and EFS school- (Education for Sustainability)

**MacCarthey Dressman Education Foundation (Paul)**

* 10,000 $ a year for up to 3 years
* This grant was found by the Antioch grants coordinator
* Paul willing to meet with a subgroup and could collaborate
* Due Date- January 15th
* Teacher Development Grant - need an “imaginative and well-considered plan for enriching classroom instruction”, need to be a licensed k-12 teacher employed in a public or private school.

**Place-Based Education Antioch Internship**

* Internship description (see attached)
* Discussion of what this committee envisions as the end-product of the internship
* How can we fill the 15 hours a week
* Regular pieces in the Newspaper, Education page in the Sentinel, possibly SAU newsletter
* Match for the Antioch work-study is from the George B Storer Foundation
* David suggest more time here at KMS- on call for classes on the board walk- or outside time
* One year right now- but there are possibilities for future years.
* End of August start time. Full school year- Goals for Fall Semester first.

Announcements-

* **Kids Connect! Fun on the Farm** - A 6-week program to promote self esteem, play and healthy eating by connecting children to land and nature through farming and gardening activities. Contact Katrina Farmer for more info- katrina@MonadnockConservancy.org- for student going into Grades 3 through 6 - Tracey’s community farm in Fitzwillam- kids from Monadnock Family S, Keene Housing kids collaborative- transportation from Keene to Fitzwilliam another project in Peterborough
* **Every Kid in a Park Program**- <https://www.everykidinapark.gov/get-your-pass/>

4th grade in the National Parks- 4th grade teachers should know about this - Billings Farms and St Gaudens are included in this (as well as Acadia)