**Minutes GREN monthly meeting Wednesday March 11, 2009**

Chair: John Jackson

Minutes: Susan Koswan

**Website Update – Susan K/Theo**

* Now online [www.gren.ca](http://www.gren.ca), send comments/changes/content to [susan@gren.ca](mailto:susan@gren.ca)
* Theo will set up listservs with sublists and send invitations to paid GREN members to join.
* Sublists and their moderators (lists are fluid and will change as needed):

General (everyone) – Theo

Executive – Theo

Greenbelt, Moraine, Hidden Valley – Kevin Thomason

ROPP – Deb Swidorovich (suggested)

Fluoride - Carole Clinch

Pipeline – John Jackson

**Links to Other Organizations – John J**

* New Council of Canadians formed in K/W – will link and support not subsume

**Media Strategy – Susan B**

* Drafted by Bob B – Susan K offered to write press releases and create media list

**Finance and Membership**

* $310.18 in account as of March 11/09
* 2009 paid members 11 individual, 3 group and 0 student
* Website paid for 3 yrs.

**Guest Speaker - Tanya Markvart**

* Sustainability Evaluative Framework (speaking notes sent by email 110309 by Tanya)

New committee struck – Sustainability Committee – Susan K, Lulu, Tanya, Peter, John J

Info:

Norah C – RoW Public Health has new Health Policy Anne Marie Ramsey (sp?)

SHADE (report sent out as separate email from Norah 120309)

Peter – SIG, Paul Bourne Community Conversations – can be adapted for sustainability?

**Committee Updates**

**ROPP – Kevin**

* Waiting for next draft of ROPP to comment, expressed concern re lower tier/Region conflicts
* Comment to not assume density figures, for example, are evidence-based

**Greenbelt – Kevin**

* Criteria and report cards have been released
* Issue on sideburner due to economic times
* Waterloo Moraine Act review delayed 2 more months

**Other Business/updates**

**Ontario Cosmetics Pesticide Ban – Susan K**

* Will be effective April 22, 2009
* Generally good – the only pesticides that can be sold and used on lawns for cosmetic purposes are considered “non-toxic”
* Exemptions for health, golf courses, public buildings, rights of way, trees, specialty turf i.e. lawn bowling, sportsfields that will be used for international events
* <http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/news/2009/030401.php> has full details

**Green Energy Act – Bill 150 – John J**

* Not applicable to homeowners
* Specifically concerned with following –

1. Use of word “will” cause …harm – where is precautionary principle?
2. Reverse onus – why not on project initiator to prove no harm?
3. Tribunal approval assumed if past deadline date

<http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills_detail.do?locale=en&BillID=2145&detailPage=bills_detail_the_bill>

scroll down in Part V.0.1. renewable energy for exact text starting with Onus of Proof

**WARMER Group – Earth Day event April 24 – 25/09** <http://contactimprov.ca/on/kw/warmer.htm>

**West Side – Yvonne F**

* Upper Blair Creek Doon South OMB Appeal
* East side development with restrictions, good monitoring Rob Horne
* West side – wellheads, recharge, should not be development – passed recommendation at RoW council meeting tonight

**Climate Change - Greg M**

* Greg hosted meeting of new group with Lynn McDonald, former Toronto MP [www.justearth.net](http://www.justearth.net) to lobby politicians

**Owens Land – Lulu**

* Lulu will be advocate in OMB hearing – looking for sponsor

**Adjournment**

**Next GREN meeting** – Thursday April 16 7:15 p.m. 10 Carden St. Guelph <http://www.10carden.ca/> - has map

* Agenda will include protecting Hanlon Creek Business Park, Wellington Waterwatchers update, Places to Grow lobbying