

Sustainability Council Meeting
Minutes

January 15, 2010

Members: Noted at 18 present

The minutes from December 18, 2009 were acknowledged. Frank Reida told the group that the minutes needed to be corrected with a change in his report that the Indiana Bat was being affected by the windmills.

Ed Dupree spoke about the environmentally friendly paper industry. His presentation included comments about the forestation not being destroyed by the paper industry. The industry plants over one million trees a day. He also gave information about the minimal paper industry contributions to green house gas. Per the paper industry paper is one of the true sustainable industries operating. Ed recommends only purchasing paper that is FSC (Forestry Stewardship Council) certified because the council strongly promotes sustainability.

Joe Zaborowski updated the Council on the progress being made in changing to the new credit card process. The change is moving to a procedure that is electronic (paperless) and has greater management control on spending.

Lennis Pederson informed the Council that the alternative energy project has finally gotten transition having been awarded the grant by DOE. The push is on to get the project up and functioning by June 1, 2010.

Mary Duda reported that Peter Maas and she were preparing for Recycle Mania? The program starts on January 17th and is active for 6 weeks. Creighton is entered into three phases of the context.

Also noted was the conversion of two compactors to single stream recycling. This effort was made possible with a grant from NDEQ.

Bob Duros told the Council that staff from DoIT will be meeting with departments to learn how the departments are currently doing their respective printing operation. His goal is to get as much information collected as needed to give to Xerox for a March quote that will standardize printing and reduce the number of printers on campus. He stated that he is working with the cabinet and no decisions about the new program have been made.

The Council was informed that interviews with three finalists to assist with accomplishing a green house gas analysis had slipped because of weather. Lennis Pederson informed the Council that the interviews have been scheduled for late January.

Lennis Pederson informed the Council that a group of interested individuals were meeting in February to discuss an organic community garden. The concept is to use the garden as a teaching tool about the good that can come from growing and eating the right foods.

Ken Smith reported that the GreenJays were still potting together plans for the Community Garden at the Sienna Francis House. The concept is to have raised beds installed. Ken shared that he is actively recruiting students to help with the garden.

Ken Homan started the program to recycle books. It went well for the first attempt. There were about 300 books collected and of that about 230 could be forwarded to Better World Books. Better World Books collects both used and new books and re-sells them with a portion of the sale going to help Invisible Children of Uganda.

Frank Reida reported to the Council that the cap and trade legislation had stalled in the Senate. Much is anticipated after the election to fill the seat vacated by the late Senator Ted Kennedy. The EPA is prepared to levy regulations that cap emissions if Congress does not pass legislation.

The Council is encouraged to promote car pooling and use of Metro Rideshare as a tool to find car pooling partners. Mary Duda said that 8 people from Creighton had signed on as Metro Rideshare partners.

The Council was reminded of the January 25, 2010 tour of the LEED platinum certified building which is home to Morrissey Engineering.

Lennis Pederson spoke to the Council about an initiative to benchmark consumption of utilities. The concept is designed to insure the buildings are performing efficiently and meeting a standard benchmark and that the buildings are meeting the LEED standards in place for the newer buildings on campus.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for 2:00 pm in the Union Pacific Room on February 19, 2010.