

Sustainability Council Meeting
Minutes

March 19, 2010

Members: Noted at 9 present

The minutes from the February 9, 2010 were acknowledged.

Lennis Pederson informed the Council that Brendle Group will be retained to do the greenhouse gas analysis. The contract has not been issued as yet. The study will take about 3 months to accomplish. Many people on campus will be involved with the study providing information. The members of the Council involved with screening and interviewing the responding consultants are thanked for their efforts.

Strategic planning activity is progressing. The task force is adding flesh to the tactics included in the strategies. The report from Ed DuPree and Stephanie Wernig is that their sub-committee developing the action relative a cost benefit analysis is looking at a philosophical statement including a return on investments and identifying a baseline for sustainability projects.

Mary Duda gave an update on RecycleMania! as being a contest underway. She also reported that the single stream recycling program is expanding into the Criss buildings in the next few days. Single-stream recycling will be expanded into Hixson-Lied, Criss complex and Rigge before the semester ends.

Lennis reported that the alternative energy project is about designed and bidding for the packages has begun. The work installing will likely start in April because of delivery time for some of the material and the weather. The desired completion date is May 15, 2010 but that seems less likely as material is taking longer to receive than earlier hoped. .

Bob Duros could not attend the meeting. His prepared remarks were read into these minutes as follows.

- 1) We've completed the data collection needed for Xerox to prepare a detailed proposal. We've also give data to Hewlett Packard, JQ Office Equipment, IKON and Konica-Minolta and all are preparing proposals.
- 2) John Wilhelm and I will received a preliminary report on the current state of campus printing from Xerox on March 24
- 3) Xerox will hold an all day workshop with groups such as Admissions and University Relations who use production print for various purposes to get feedback on the kind of technology Xerox can put into a proposal
- 4) Xerox will present their formal proposal to John Wilhelm and myself on April 7
- 5) We will have proposals from the other vendors by April 9

After the above, we will present the proposal to the Cabinet and will act according to their direction. We continue to expect that the proposals will show a significant opportunity for cost savings and a significant reduction in our carbon footprint.

Frank Reida reported that cap and trade in the congress remains stalled. President Obama has come out as a strong supporter of nuclear power plants and is trying to find funding to support the initiative. The EPA has declared an endangerment finding that will cause the EPA to regulate carbon discharge through control.

There are two court cases being heard about large coal plants adding pollutants to the atmosphere. The 5th District Circuit Court has an action against a power plant adding pollutants after Katrina. The 2nd District Circuit Court is also hearing a case.

George Tangeman recapped the activity being planned for Earth Day. Earth day will be celebrated on April 22nd. Along with Earth day, the residence halls are gearing up for another "Battle of the Dorms" that will focus on electrical energy conservation during a two week period in April. Other activities include updates on recycling and a celebration of Arbor Day. There will be a walk scheduled at about noon. Richard Miller is promoting the walk as being a display of activism regarding climate change awareness.

Lennis told the group that the Community Garden concept continues to develop on three fronts. The understanding is that the GreenJays are still planning a garden at the Siena Francis House. Of lesser impact on Creighton is the Community Garden being planted by members of the Gifford Park Neighborhood Association. The garden will again be planted on a vacate lot owned by Creighton west of 30th Street. The garden is primarily developed to teach gardening skills to youngsters in the neighborhood.

An organic garden is being planned for Creighton constituents to learn the value of producing goods in an enriched soil. The effort is as much about teaching as it is about production. The effort has the support of the Sustainability Council, the Wellness Council and the Creighton Student Union. The garden will be in a fenced lot south of Cuming Street on 18th. The spring effort will be significant as soil is enhanced for the garden. Members of the Creighton community that work on the garden will share in the harvest.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for 2:00 pm in the Union Pacific Room on Apr 16, 2010.