

Sustainability Council Meeting
Minutes

November 18, 2011

Members Present: Noted at 13 members

The minutes from the October 18, 2011 meeting were acknowledged as accurate.

Joe Zaborowski talked about the e-Commerce Program. The tool is designed to take as much as possible out of Banner. The move to e-Commerce will help reduce paper because a lot of electronic files and routing will be incorporated into the process. Additionally, the vendors selling to Creighton will be asked to respond to the questions about how the company is doing sustainability practices. Joe asked that the Council help him by summarizing and marking stronger language about the five steps.

Lennis Pederson said that the draft Energy Conservation Plan for the University is wrapping up quickly. The draft has several areas for action that the University might engage. The final draft will be forwarded before November 30, 2011.

Mary Duda told the Council about the Midlands Sustainability Council meeting. The recent meeting was comments from two institutions representatives that attended a national conference about sustainability. Comments included methods/ideas to enhance transportation. The next council meeting will be focusing on purchasing methods.

Chris Boitano explained the progress being made at several levels across campus to get approval of the Fair Trade Agreement. His actions will continue with a return visit to the Academic Council.

Lennis Pederson reviewed the transportation initiatives. The Bike Program is going well with help from Matt Martin and the Community Bike Shop. Matt has offered input on the design for the proposed bike repair shop in McGloin Hall. A Memorandum of Understanding is being crafted between the Community Bike Shop and Creighton University.

Further comments on the Bike Program were a review of the long term bike storage program. Alex Blomquist and Anna Greene are two students promoting the project being coordinated by Jim Dorsey.

Bike safety classes are being discussed for Creighton. The Community Bike Shop will be the leader in this project.

Further discussion about mass transit needs to happen. The proposed bus transfer station at 17th and Cass will be a very convenient location for faculty, staff, and students to use the bus to get to campus. The change in landscape around campus because of multi-use facilities will provide housing for campus continuants and possibly reduce demand for bus ridership. The University shuttle system continues to provide area campus service to campus constituents. The program has been enhanced recently with the addition of a "Taxi Service" (JayRides) to

provide a more efficient after hour's alternative to the bigger shuttles. The work by Amy Helms and her sub-committee has garnered a wealth of information and comments about bus ridership that will be useful in further discussion.

Car pooling is another form of transportation that needs development. The recent Green Bag Lunch focused on alternative transportation and highlighted the positive aspects of car pooling including the social benefits.

All aspects of transportation including the Zip Car need to be considered in a master planning effort. Earlier attempts at a fragmented approach have not produced results in every area of opportunity.

Alex Blomquist spoke on Green Jays efforts including the bike storage program. The Green Jays are also doing background information to develop a "Ban the Bottle" program. It is considered that the program will be much more active in the next semester.

Steve Brace was recognized for his efforts to recycle the turf planned to be removed from the Morrison Stadium soccer pitch sometime in early 2012.

Mary Duda encouraged members of the Council to attend the Recycle Advocacy group. The next meeting of the team tasked to enhance the recycle program is scheduled for later in November. The meeting time is posted on the University calendar.

Lennis Pederson distributed a preliminary list of water using fixtures found on campus. The list, noted as being a draft, is a start at noting how water is consumed on campus. The document will be useful for planning and promoting World Water Day scheduled for March 22, 2012.

The meeting adjourned at 2:49 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2011 at 2:00 pm in the Union Pacific Room.