

Sustainability Council Meeting
Minutes

January 21, 2011

Members Present: Noted at 16

The minutes from the December 17, 2010 meeting were acknowledged

Lennis Pederson encouraged the membership to attend the January 25, 2011 presentation about the greenhouse gas analysis by the Brendle Group. The meeting is in Harper Center room 2060.

Jessica Heller could not attend the meeting to update on the Community Gardens. The Ignatian Garden is plotted and ready for raised beds. The garden will be announced later in February. The educational garden will be further discussed at future meetings.

Earth Day will be April 20, 2011. George Tangeman will be leading the set up and coordination of the event. The theme will be energy conservation. A part of the activity will be a Bike Play Day that Deb Fortina is developing. The event will be from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Joe Zaborowski informed the group about the Purchasing program called Sourcing Exposition, 2011. He encourages the group to have a table about Sustainability which was agreed to by the Council. George Tangeman was asked to lead the event with strong support from Cheri Annin and Stephanie Wernig.

Lennis Pederson said that Farmer's Market is coming together. The event is expected to be on Wednesday afternoons, maybe 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm on the 24th Street parking garage. Planning is for 3 to 5 vendors at each event.

The Council agreed that the audit of past activity was in order. The primary goal is to assess areas where more work could be focused. Joe Zaborowski was asked to lead a sub-committee of his choosing to accomplish the audit. His findings will be presented at the April council meeting.

Mary Duda and Lennis Pederson explained how the senior level sustainability deliberations class taught by Jay Leighter had been approached to help with a sustainability visioning program. The concept is not completely in line with the class syllabus but it might be something the class may wish to undertake. A response from the class is anticipated.

Peter Maas reminded the Council about the forthcoming Recycle Mania! program. The competition begins February 6, 2011 and continues through April 2nd. Peter explained some of the promotional work he is accomplished to enhance the program success. He also spoke about how he is getting better support from the buyers of Creighton's recycle material which will make record keeping for the contest easier.

Peter told the group about his attempts to set up Recycle Mania! contests among members of the Missouri Valley Athletic conference and member schools within Nebraska. He has not been getting a lot of interest.

Fran Reida provided his monthly report on legislative and regulatory action. His comments included remarks about:

1. The EPA is attempting to regulate greenhouse gas through the Clean Air Act. The EPA is targeting modified power plants using the permit process for Prevention of Significant Deterioration.
2. California is becoming a leader among states to champion cap and trade at the state level.
3. The Kyoto Protocol officially ends in 2012. The speculation is that there will not be a new international protocol because countries are not inclined to participate until the United States adopts the Protocol.

4. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) reported that the combined land and surface temperatures in 2010 exceeded the 20th Century average by 1.12 degrees fahrenheit causing last year to be tied with 2005 as the warmest years since record keeping began in 1880. 2010 was also the 34th year in a row which land and surface temperatures exceeded the 20th Century average.

It was agreed that the Swap and Share event being organized by Cheri Annin should be tabled. Mary Duda suggested that Cheri get in contact with St. Mary's to learn about the success of their program being organized as part of Earth Day, 2011.

Ken Reed-Bouley could not be present at the meeting. It is understood that he could use help identifying speakers for the Green Bag Lunch program. Mary Duda suggested asking someone from Metro Ride Share.

Mary Duda recapped the Midland's Sustainability Council meeting convened on January 21, 2011. The group of participating schools talked about:

1. Earth Day, 2011
2. Recycle Mania!
3. Car pooling and mass transit
4. Reducing food waste

Jim Dorsey talked about the bike program on campus. His points included:

1. A sub committee will convene to examine how to transform Burt Street to include bike lanes partitioned off on vehicle traffic
2. Bike storage indoors for long term storage is being constructed
3. The Earth Day celebration will have a Bike Play Day as part of the program
4. Carlos Morales from the City is very willing to help grow the bike program at Creighton

Lennis Pederson reported that there had been limited work done on the alternative energy project in the past month.

Mary Duda said she was helping John O'Keefe with his preliminary work in hosting the Green Homes tour tentatively planned for a time in September/October, 2011.

The Council began preliminary conversation about installing electrical outlets for any electric powered cars that may be driven to campus in the future.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm

The next meeting is February 18, 2011 at 2:00 pm in the Union Pacific Room in the Alumni Library.