

Sustainability Council Meeting
Minutes

April 17, 2009

Members and Guests: Noted at 13

Meeting Minutes: The minutes from March 20, 2009 meeting were acknowledge

Ray Madej and his team presented information about the newly installed computerized campus irrigation control system. The system was installed as part of the Harper Center. A total of seven areas on campus will be included in the first phase of the project. The start up of the system controller will commence in later April.

Rainbird is the manufacturer of the controller. The water consumed for irrigation is reduced by an estimated 40% which provided part of the funding for the system. The controller will adjust water flow based on temperature, wind, topography, soil condition and plant life. The computer storing historical data can sense when water flow is excessive like occurs when a pipe is broken; hence, shut down the valves.

Lennis Pederson encouraged everyone to celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd. The various activities have been posted. The Energy Awareness Committee was thanked for the work gone into the program.

Mary Duda explained how the Community Bike Shop at 33rd and California wants to interact with Creighton. The Bike Shop is developing ideas for a bike rental program and for events that encourage riding bikes for commuting and for pleasure. The Bike Shop encourages the Creighton community to volunteer to work in the shop, serving as trainers for new riders; bicycle repair people; and developing and promoting programs that encourage bike riding.

Cheri Annin presented the status of her charge to ban vending water on campus. 'Ban the Bottle' has some attention across campus as Creighton follows the lead of other colleges and universities. Cheri asked for help from the committee members and solicited their ideas and comments to expand the grass roots effort. She will be displaying posters at Earth Day to promote banning the bottle. She is also championing the installation of a water filter in the Boyne Bldg cafeteria so water bottles won't be in the vending machines.

Mary Duda told the group about the Sustainability Leadership Workshop convened earlier in March on campus. The event was attended by about 80 people from about 35 business and firms across the City. The very diverse audience had the opportunity of hearing a keynote address from Dr Richard Miller, Theology Department and to hear presentations from four speakers about LEED, water conservation, Sustainability in the community, and about national trends in the custodial supply industry. The very successful event was co-sponsored by Unisource which is a primary vendor serving Creighton with cleaning and restroom product.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45.

The next meeting is 2:00pm on May 15 in the Union Pacific Room in the Reinert Alumni Library.