

Sustainability Council minutes, July 17, 2015

Attendance: recorded at 15

- Laudato Si – worth reading. Reading Groups coming out in the fall from Collaborative Ministry office.
- WellFest is October 8, 2015 from Noon-4 pm. Sustainability Council has been invited to participate.
 - BikeNest
 - Need an idea of what others will do
 - Gauge interest of food recovery program
- St. Francis Day Award; when to announce
- Curtailment email: could be doing a lot of other things. Could we work with Verdis Group or similar for behavior change? Could add other stuff to email: close blinds on certain sides. Could do comprehensive plans, other smaller things. Could pay for itself. Would it be worthwhile to talk to someone from UNMC.
- Update on gas consumption at eternal flame:
 - Note from John Wilhelm: “Thanks for your note. I want to gather some information about the flame before I'm able to reply to you. Just wanted to let you know I'll be checking into the Council's concern.”
 - Might make sense some liturgical times of the year – Holy Spirit, St. Ignatius feast. Already a work of art in the shape of the flame. Make it special 5 or 6 times a year.
 - 250 Ccf last month (equivalent to 100 ft³) = 3,000 Ccf/year = 300 Mcf/year
 - Average house in Nebraska used 77 Mcf/year in 2011, most recent data at <http://www.neo.ne.gov/statshtml/34.html> (Nebraska Energy Office).
- Students working on composting
 - David Menzel – WeCompost did sampling from Becker and Brandeis. Food waste per student: 0.37 pounds pre-consumer. Post-consumer 0.11/student for day. 0.48 pounds total/student. 4770 pounds per week (extrapolated). Only dining halls and not retail or catering. Approximately ½ may be still usable. Should explore donations to food rescue locations along with composting. Opportunities for more metal and cardboard recycling.
 - 8 barrels would be at Brandeis, 3 at Becker. Issues of place, employee training, bag cost. Could we do 2 smaller dumpsters.
 - Not sure if it would be a cost-savings, but it is a perception and a sustainability initiative.
 - Other places running this program: HDR and Google, pilot program at business school at UNO.
 - Sodexo has experience with this at other schools.
 - 8-10 months down the road.
 - Students want this. Need to find the money for this. Dr. Rossi and Dr. Winegard have bought in.
 - Next steps: not sure.
 - Need to figure out costs, etc.
 - Students seem to working on this.
 - Facilities has weights, costs, etc.
 - Need to move ahead with both. Ken Reed-Bouley to work on food recovery
 - Could start with Skutt – they have their own staff. Smaller, a lot more control. Desk workers/students to help with training.

- Abigail Lill from Sodexo. Came from Drake
 - Food recovery. Leftover food donated to local shelters. Partnership between Sodexo and Drake. Student volunteers to take pans of food to shelters. A hurdle finding people to take the food.
 - Here: Good relationships with local shelters. Campus Kitchens is still a little active.
 - Smaller committee could work on that. Absolute first thing to work on – feeding the hungry.
 - Composting
 - Recycling
 - Drake Environmental Action League
 - Compostable paper goods in retail.
 - Wasteless Week – took all the food that they threw away and weighed it to compare to future weeks.
 - Hurdles: National Certification for Food Recovery. Difficult to get students educated.
- Archives -- what to include, and which audience
 - Earth Day stuff
- David Murdoch – Skutt doing a lot of different things for sustainability. Mein Bowl had switched to non-styrofoam containers. New Air Handlers. New recycle containers in Skutt 209, 104, 105, and Ballroom. May try some things with Pepsi. DreamMachines still on campus. Energy efficient lighting.

Announcements:

- Thank you to Fran Angerth, who is retiring July 31. She developed the Sustainability in Construction document and enforced it during her years as director of Planning and Design. We wish her well.
- Give and Go Program: Over 49,000 pounds collected and sent to Goodwill in 2015 from the residence halls. Totals in 2013 and 2014 were approximately 40,100 pounds.

Upcoming events:

- Next meeting is July 17 @ 2pm in Eppley 119.
- St. Francis Day: October 5, 2015
 - Planning meeting September 10 at 10 pm at CCSJ