

Sustainability Council Meeting  
Minutes

November 19, 2010

Members Present: Noted at 19

The minutes from the October 15, 2010 meeting were acknowledged.

Mary Duda informed the Council about the grade Creighton received on the Green Report Card. The B- was a great improvement. Mary and Stephanie Wernig are to be congratulated for their efforts in completing the survey. The survey response is important because if it does not get a response, the agency will use websites and speculate on the answers.

Lennis Pederson told the group that there were information sessions being convened with campus folks that may be impacted by new regulations to reduce ozone emissions. At this time, there are no regulations established by Omaha. MAPA is developing voluntary program which focuses on internal combustion engines. Creighton would be a good community leader by getting a program in place early.

David Bartholomai from LifeSpan Technology Recycling spoke to the Council about updates in the electronics recycling regulations. The United States is desiring to add regulations to orderly remove electronic components from the waste stream. The biggest problem is that the junk items are shipped over seas from wrecking and disposal.

Mr. Bartholomai made the Council aware of the certificates that are being implemented by the EPA to bring a professional accountability to the process. There are only a few firms that are certified at this time. It is the goal to have many.

Joe Zaborowski told the Council that the University has a policy requiring purchases of Energy Star appliances. Over the past year, the University expensed about \$1,500,000 for equipment that had the Energy Starr label. Most of the equipment is computer products. Lab equipment is not now regulated but should be in about a year.

Mary Duda encourages people to sign up for the Sustainability Pledge. The pledge is on-line. The pledge is very similar to the pledge document used at other Jesuit schools. The announcement of the pledge availability is expected soon.

Pete Maas confirmed that Creighton is signed up for Recycle Mania. The University will be involved in 3 separate contests within the program. There will be public announcements made as posters are delivered and the time to start the contest in mid January approaches.

Pete also spoke to the Council about the lack of success experienced with the outdoors recycle program. There is a lot of trash and contaminants in the recycle containers making the contents non-recyclable.

Pete will soon convene a Recycling Advisory Board. He has 10 members that have volunteered to join him with streamlining and expanding the recycle program.

Ken Reed-Bouley reminded the Council about the CU Sustainability Council's "Green Bag" lunch and learn series. The sessions will be convened 2 or 3 times a semester.

1. Next Tuesday, November 23, 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm, Creighton Center for Service and Justice (Harper Center Room 2067). Dr. Richard Miller "The Climate Crisis: The State of the Problem and Potential Solutions.

- Drinks, Fresh fruit and 7 layer bars proved
  - Bring a sustainable lunch if you would like
2. Monday, December 6, 2010 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, Andy Waltke - tour of the CU Biology Greenhouse and Community Gardens.
- Bring a simple lunch to Biology Conference room then will the tour of the facility

People are asked to spread the word on this and get involved.

George Tangeman mentioned that his team is moving forward with conversion to heating and how they systems are being monitored to look for energy “hogs”. George said that he is having conversations with Residence Hall occupants encouraging their participation in energy conversation. George explained that he will be soliciting members to the Ad Hoc Energy Awareness Committee. People interested should contact George.

Members of the sub-committee working on enhancing the car pooling program could not be present at the meeting. On their behalf, Lennis Pederson reported that the committee is anticipating using the results of the survey sent by the Brendle Group for green gas analysis as a data base for car pooling. People are encouraged to fill out the survey.

The bicycle program was discussed at length. Laura Green spoke about the student initiative to find secure, covered bike parking on campus. She and Jessica Heller also talked about possible funding from the City of Omaha for enhancing a bike program. Jessica and Lennis Pederson informed the group that the biking program developer employed by the city, Carlos Morellas, was very encouraging about involving Creighton in future programs. Laura also spoke about involvement with the Community Bike Shop and the desire to create a small bike repair shop on campus.

Lennis Pederson thanked the Council for so willingly gathering information for the Brendle Group to complete the Green Gas Analysis. The results of the aforementioned survey about commuters to campus are one of the last pieces of information needed. The tentative schedule is for a report delivery in an open forum on January 25, 2011. Save the date.

Jessica Heller updated the Council on the gardening initiative. There will be three gardens on campus next spring.

- Garden #1 is by Andy Waltke at the north side of the Greenhouse. This garden will function much as it did in 2010.
- Garden #2 will be focused on education. Located west of Rigge, the garden will have several changing messages about plant life, plant care and gardening tips. It will be designed and constructed under the leadership of Andy Waltke with a strong link to the Wellness Council.
- Garden #3 will be more of a Community Garden. Now known as the **Ignatius Garden**. The garden will be west of 18<sup>th</sup> Street between Cuming Street and Burt Street. It will be divided into plots for individuals to grow their own plants. With established rules for responsible maintenance, the garden will be enhanced over 2010.

Chris Boitano could not be present for commenting so Lennis Pederson reported that the car tire inflation program went well. About 45 vehicles took advantage of the testing and inflation. The people involved with the program recommended having repeat times possibly limiting the event to the 24<sup>th</sup> Street garage upper deck.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm.

The next meeting will be at 2:00 pm on December 17, 2010 in the Union Pacific Room.