

Sustainability Council Meeting
Minutes

December 16, 2011

Members Present: Noted at 22 members

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

Jessica Heller listed some of the successful efforts employed at the Ignatian Garden this past growing season. She also spoke about the future use of the land and expanding the gardens. The people that had plots this past year were from a cross section of the campus population.

Earth Day will be April 18, 2012, and may be an Earth Week from April 16th to April 20th. Activities include awareness of energy conservation including water conservation. Cheri Annin may be involved with an Earth Week Clothing Drive. George Tangeman is chairing the Earth Week, 2012, program.

The bike program was discussed quickly because Jim Dorsey could not be present. Lennis told the Council that a letter endorsing a bike trail on 30th street was sent to the State Department of Natural Resources. Also mentioned was the growing use of long term bike storage as sponsored by Anna Green's group.

Lennis informed the Council that a group from across campus has been scheduled to work on a Transportation Master Plan for the campus. Sustainability and reducing the carbon footprint will be a part of the study. Council members are invited to join the group as they desire.

Lennis reminded the group that a comprehensive draft Energy Conservation Plan has been forwarded to the University Administration for approval.

As information, the Council was told that an RFP to retain a consultant to help with a utility and energy master plan has been issued. Interviews with consultants to complete the selection will occur in February. Selection of the consultant will enable preparation of the scope of work and the cost for the plan.

Mary Duda commented that RecycleMania! will start January 22nd. Promotion of the contest will start when school resumes in early January.

Frank Reida spoke about legislative and regulatory actions –

- The EPA study finds ground water contamination from hydraulic fracturing operation in Wyoming
- The Keystone XL pipeline will be rejected by the President as a tacked on amendment to the payroll tax law. The pipeline project requires administration approval.

- The Shale Gas Production subcommittee to the Department of Energy submitted its second 90 day report. The November 18, 2011 report had been circulated to the Sustainability Council earlier.
- The recent financial failure of Solyndra as a manufacturer of solar panels was mentioned.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

The next meeting is January 20, 2012 at 2:00 pm in the Union Pacific Room.