University-wide Environmental Standing Committee

MEETING MINUTES
February 20, 2015

Present: Karen Anderson, Monika Antonelli, Michael Hanson, Beth Holcomb, Luke Larson, Medea Myhra, Paul Prew, Kyler Schoner, Lou Schwartzkopf, Gary Urban

A. Liz Miller had a scheduling conflict and will need to reschedule her presentation with us.

B. Approval of Minutes: The meeting minutes from January 30 were reviewed. Lou Schwartzkopf made a motion to approve the minutes. Michael Hanson seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

C. Old Business

1. RecycleMania: The Game Day Basketball event on Friday, February 13, went very well. Thirty staff, students and volunteers were there to help out. Prizes were drawn and given out to fans at both halftimes. Prizes included 32 oz. purple water bottles with two free hockey game tickets in each one. The results of the event amounted to a total of 528 lbs. of recycled materials, 270 lbs. of trash, and the game attendance was 1,942. This compares to last year’s totals of 880 lbs. of recycled materials, 360 lbs. of trash, and game attendance of 1,849. The students will meet again the week after spring break to plan activities around Earth Day in April.

2. Climate Action Plan: The Climate Action Plan Strategies and Action Steps handout was shared. The next step is to hand it over to the “writing team” in Urban & Regional Studies. The writing team will use the information to give a presentation to their class. One of the requirements for the grant proposal is to have the writing team make a presentation to the president’s cabinet. This will happen sometime after May 1 before the end of the semester. Lou Schwartzkopf went over Items 2, 8, 14, 19, 24, 26, 27, and 30 of the Strategies and Action Steps handout, which are areas that fall under the responsibility of the Environmental Committee. It was suggested that the bargaining units be included in Meet & Confer information sessions. Also, we’ll need to get cost and refund statistics on trash and recycling from LJP (Beth Holcomb can provide).

3. Membership Term Limits: The reason we are looking at membership term limits is to avoid 100 percent turnover in any given year. Also, different bargaining units have different term limits; the MSSA appoints for only one year. There is value in bringing in new people with fresh ideas. Some suggestions were to change membership terms to

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3 years with maximum 2 consecutive terms; possibly add alternates by putting out a “call” for alternates when certain terms are getting close to ending. We need to contact bargaining units to check into each unit’s term limits. Discussion is tabled until Schwartzkopf and Hanson can check into this further.

D. Other

Beth Holcomb relayed a message from Ron Fields that we are entering the next phase of the Guaranteed Energy Savings Program with hope that the first projects can be started this summer.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Next meeting: Friday, March 20, 10:00 a.m. in Wiecking Center 221 – Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted:

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Future Meetings (all meetings held at 10:00 a.m.)
April 17, 2015    SU 204 – Nichols Room
May 15, 2015     SU 256 – Conference Room