University-wide Environmental Standing Committee

MEETING MINUTES
March 20, 2015


I. Approval of Minutes
The meeting minutes from February 20 were reviewed. Lou Schwartzkopf made a motion to approve the minutes. Paul Prew seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

II. Old Business
A. RecycleMania
Week 5 competition standings were shared in a handout. Discussion on why the numbers seem to be a little lower than last year’s. We may need to look into a more strategic plan on bin locations and also look at keeping trash containers next to recycling containers at all times. Ron Fields will talk with Jason McCue about attending the next meeting to go over the current logistics of trash and recycling bin placements.

B. Climate Action Plan
1. The Climate Action Plan Strategies and Action Steps handout was updated and shared. Between now and next academic year, committee members should be thinking about how we can “roll out” the Climate Action Plan on campus.
2. Loren Ahonen, the writing team leader, prepared an outline for the Climate Action Plan paper which was shared with the committee. The writing team will make a presentation to the president’s cabinet on May 11 at 1:30 p.m. Someone asked if the writing team would do a “rehearsal” in front of the committee. Instead, committee members are encouraged to attend the team’s class presentation on May 1. Schwartzkopf will check into this for more details and send an email to committee members with that information.
3. It was suggested that a section be added to the paper that outlines the benefits (i.e. why we are doing this; how it will help; how it will save the University money over the long term). Schwartzkopf will suggest this to the writing team.

C. Commuter Survey
1. Every spring, the commuter survey (one of the components of the annual carbon footprint update) goes out to the campus community. The Sebesta survey questions have not changed and will continue to be used. Last year, Gary Urban posted the survey in mid to late April. He’ll contact the person in charge of campus-wide emails to get it sent out again this year.

Cont’d.
2. Monika Antonelli will check into having a notice about the survey cross-posted on social media.
3. Urban will send a publicity piece to Kim Rademaker in Media Relations for a press release.
4. Luke Larson works at The Reporter and will make sure it gets mentioned in there.
5. Schwartzkopf made a motion to have the survey sent out on **Monday, April 6**, and the deadline to be **Friday, April 24**. Motion was seconded and all approved.

III. New Projects
The committee discussed sponsoring a lecture during fall semester and having it tie in with next year’s common read book, “The Good Food’s Revolution” as well as with the start-up of the community garden. Some ideas included having local farmers speak on raising food differently; community gardens; panel discussions; hunger and homelessness. Antonelli volunteered to look into possible speakers. The discussion was tabled for a later date due to time constraints.

IV. Other
Ron Fields asked Schwartzkopf if he needs more help with the carbon footprint update. Schwartzkopf replied that there is now web-based software which makes it much easier to enter the data, but he’ll keep in mind to delegate some of the tasks.

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

**Next meeting:** Friday, April 17, 10:00 a.m. in SU 204 – Nichols Room.

Respectfully submitted:

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