



MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO

University-wide Environmental Standing Committee
MEETING MINUTES
February 19, 2021
Draft

Present: Sky Niesen Smith, Jason McCue, Michael Rutkowski, Anne Ludvik, Kathryn Wirtanen, Paul Prew, Gary Urban, Monika Antonelli, David Cowan, Russell Fricano, Lou Schwartzkopf

I. Welcome

II. Call Meeting to Order

- Called meeting to order at 11:08am – there was an issue with multiple Zoom links.

III. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes deferred to next meeting.

IV. University Sustainability Certificate

- Russell Fricano looked into 32 public and private Universities – see handout
- Paul Prew suggested collaborating with Organizational Studies/ Applied Leadership – Christine Mollenkopf-Pigsley.
- Monika Antonelli suggested an Intro to Sustainability class. Fricano said there is a 100 level class in his department.
- There will be a survey sent out

V. Solar Project

- See handout from Lou Schwartzkopf.
- David Cowan does not think students would be in support of an additional green fee.
- Could solar panels tie into a Sustainability Certificate?
- Many different options for donations and grants.

VI. Trex Recycling Program

- Zero waste organics recycling – see handout.
- Start with 2 containers on campus. There would be a bag that is 8-12 lbs when full. The bag would need to be transported to Cub Foods East or West by volunteers or the University.
- This would be a cost savings as there would be less going into the dumpsters.
- Jason McCue suggested doing another audit to determine what is actually being thrown away and where to focus on.

VII. Follow-up

- Emeritus Professor in North Mankato is not looking for assistance with his lawn at this time.
- The International Convention will be held in Spain.

VIII. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted:
Beth Rorvig
Future Meetings: 11:00a.m. - 11:50a.m.