

DU Sustainability Council

Meeting Minutes: January 15, 2009 – DuPont Room, Mary Reed Building

Sustainability Council Members Present: Fred Cheever, Lisa Dale, Jared Doi, Matt Bosquez, Bruce Hutton, Rebecca Powell, Cody Gale, David Ciepley, Jeff Bemelen, Mark Rodgers, Gregg Kvistad, Gary Alexander, Peter Lyndsay Agans, Tom McGee, Zoe Turrill, Ben Waldman, Mary Jean O'malley, Erik Bluemel, Julie Sutor, Meredith Ward, Donna Jesenovec, John Hill, Dave Brendsel, Karl French.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 5, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m., DuPont Room, Mary Reed Building.

I. Introductions

Fred Cheever introduced everyone.

Spencer Goodfriend from the Korbel School made a brief announcement for an upcoming sustainability panel at the Korbel School

Fred Cheever, Linda Kosten and Rebecca Powell announced the upcoming Rocky Mountain Sustainability Council summit in Boulder on February 12-14. Lyndsay Agans will be speaking Becky Powell will organize two vans to bring up interested students.

Linda Kosten announced the upcoming regional SCUP conference (in March) devoted to sustainability.

II. Robert Kennedy Jr., at the Daniels College of Business

Bruce Hutton announced that Robert Kennedy Jr. will be coming to the Daniels College of Business on February 12. He will be giving a lecture in the Neumann Center which will be open to the public.

III. The Sustainability Plan – It Exists!

Lyndsay Agans announced the existence of a Comprehensive DU sustainability plan, now available on the portfolio site and soon to be made available to the DU community. The plan still has holes in it – including the absence of a carbon neutrality target.

Lyndsay discussed the possibility of organizing DU's sustainability efforts going forward into four campaigns – the climate campaign, the mindful consumption campaign, the livable urban campus campaign, and the green education campaign and the possibility of organizing the Sustainability Council committee structure to correspond with a multiple campaign model.

IV. Taking The “Plan” To The Community – Outreach Efforts Over the Coming Weeks

Fred Cheever announced the upcoming campaign to take the sustainability plan to the community. He passed around the sheet for people who would agree to present at meetings of various campus organizations to introduce the plan. The following people volunteered.

- Matt Bosquez mgbosquez@gmail.com
- Ben Waldman bwaldman@du.edu
- Mary Jean O'Malley mj.omalley@du.edu
- Zoe Lynn Turrill lturrill@du.edu
- Erik Bluemel ebluemel@law.du.edu
- Julie Sutor jsutor@du.edu
- Linda Kosten lkosten@du.edu
- Becky Powell rpowell8@du.edu
- Mark Rodgers mark.rodgers@du.edu
- Tom McGee thomas.mcgee@du.edu
- Lyndsay Agans lagans@du.edu

V. Setting A Green House Gas Emissions Goal

Tom McGee discussed calculations to date including an estimated 50% reduction of GHG emissions through conservation, efficiency and minor renewable projects by 2050. He also discussed the high cost of purchasing emission offset credits based on XCEL's \$9 to \$40 per ton estimate.

Mark Rodgers pointed out that conservation, efficiency and on-site energy generation could save a significant portion of the more than 3 million dollars DU pays to XCEL every year.

Lyndsay Agans pointed out the need to meet the Chancellor's obligation under the President's Climate Commitment.

David Cieply pointed out that conservation and efficiency are almost always better options than offset credits or renewable energy

Tom McGee observed the on-site fuel cell generated power appeared to be (tentatively) the most cost effective option for achieving carbon neutrality while meeting DU's growing energy needs.

Fred Cheever suggested that Tom McGee "cost out" meeting the PCC carbon neutrality target by 2050 using conservation, efficiency, some form of low emission energy generation and the minimum number of purchased credits.

The Council passed a resolution by voice vote suggesting that Tom do so.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Outreach Committee

Karl French briefly discussed developments on the website and announced his departure from DU. The Council wished him well.

B. Reduce/Reuse/Recycle

MJ O'Malley, Ben Waldman and Zoe Turrill recounted their efforts in getting DU involved in the upcoming national "recyclemania" competition, on a DU station being developed for Denver's new bicycle share program, and the success of "Trayless Tuesdays."