

DU Sustainability Council

Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2012

Members, University Representatives and Guests Present: Kristin Altman, Gabriel Aponte, Christy Cerrone, Fred Cheever, Ethan Crawford, Cara DiEnno, Mollie Doerner, Paul Donegan, Tay Dunklee, Sharon Gabel, Brenda Goates, Emma Howard, Tiffany Hutchings, Megan Kelly, Linda Kosten, David Lashen, Chris MacMillan, Megan Marshall, Jane Maurer, Tom McGee, Jess Morton, Jacaranda Palmateer, Andy Reger, Dale Rothman, Saskia Sawyer, Scott Schrage, Mariah Shell, Mike Sickinger, Chase Squires, Brittany Wilhelm, Nicole Vilegi, Randy Wagner

Candidates: Lynne Cassidy, Christy Cerrone, Chad King

Next meeting: Thursday, February 9, 8:30 – 10 a.m., Driscoll Student Center Room 1880

I. Call to Order and Approval of November and December Minutes (Fred Cheever)

Fred called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. He asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from November 10 and December 8. Sharon Gabel moved to approve as presented, Thomas Walker seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

II. Introductions (Fred Cheever)

Fred welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that the final candidates for the position of Sustainability Coordinator were present. He asked for self-introductions.

III. Committee Reports (Chairs)

Fred and Kristin Altman asked committee chairs to email their meeting dates and locations Kristin so she can post them on the Sustainability calendar on the Green website.

A. Website and Outreach (Brittany Wilhelm)

Brittany said she would send out a more comprehensive report via email. The winter newsletter will also be sent out in the near future. Meanwhile, she handed out a draft flier on the soon-to-be launched furniture recycling program and asked for feedback.

B. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (RRR) Committee (Mike Sickinger)

Mike said that the RRR Committee would like to have the Sustainability Council approve a motion to discourage the use of single-use water bottles on campus as part of the “Take Back the Tap” program. He read proposed language. There was discussion about the primary sources of bottled water (vending machines, event venues and admissions tours) and usage statistics (e.g., Admissions uses about 13,000 bottles a year, the industry uses 32-50 million gallons of oil to produce the product), other institutions that have banned them (e.g., Chico State, Berkeley, Oregon State, Sara Lawrence), and the best way of making progress toward the goal. There were comments about making bottled water financially unfeasible, not driving people to purchase soda instead of

water, and the need to educate people about single use bottles (e.g., the energy it takes to produce, unregulated nature of the industry). Sodexo is apparently willing to cooperate but there is an agreement with Pepsi that may limit what we can do.

Fred Cheever made a motion, seconded by Dale Rothman, to ask the RRR committee to send out the proposed resolution to the listserv in the next week, and then schedule it for a vote at the February 9 meeting, along with discussion about an effective campaign to make it happen. The motion passed with one member voting no. Megan Marshall said this proposal is not new and we need to make progress on it.

Megan Marshall commented that she will be back as chair of the committee. The committee has lots of work to do and needs more members. The committee meets the last Thursday in January.

C. Social Sustainability Committee (Cara DiEnno)

Cara said that the committee will meet on February 3 at 8:45 a.m. in the Student Law Office conference room. Mike Harris has been looking at a social justice event in the spring.

D. Food and/or Mindful Consumption Committee (Megan Kelly)

Megan said that the committee has met and is discussing meaningful food policies with Ira from Sodexo. They would like more students involved. She mentioned the Downstream Neighbor symposium that will be held January 27-29 (Go to www.Downstreamneighbor.org for more information). They are also in discussion with Real Food Challenge's southwest team, which is organizing a road trip to provide campus workshops and education (Go to www.realfoodchallenge.org for more information).

E. Facilities (Tom McGee)

Tom reported that he should have the greenhouse gas final numbers today and will be able to present them at the February meeting. The numbers include the results of the recent commuter survey. They will probably include those results retroactively so that the data will be consistent. He reported on several active projects:

1. Centennial Towers hallway light sensors – Bids have been received and the final costs, including rebates, should be around \$15,000
2. Vending machine miser upgrades – These are underway for 52 machines. All Pepsi machines are Energy Star rated already.
3. Law School Demand Limiting Pilot Program – This is being implemented and will be expanded across campus if it proves feasible.
4. Ice chiller – This project has the potential for saving 1 million kilowatt hours. The design will be done in February and implementation could begin in July.
5. Smart Grid – The School of Engineering will be presenting its Phase 1 findings and can do a similar presentation at the February Council meeting. They have

received funding for Phase 2. The goal is to have it apply more broadly across campus and beyond.

F. Transportation (Ethan Crawford)

Ethan said that the transfer of the Bicycle station from Nagel Hall to South High school should begin in late March. The committee is planning activities related to Earth Month, including publicizing light rail, RTD and Bicycle. He asked for volunteers who want to help. He said that Campus Cycles wants to support our efforts and will probably be involved during Earth Month. The committee is exploring expansion of the ECO pass to DU community members currently not included (e.g., adjuncts, contract employees, continuous enrollment students). The committee meets the first Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m.

Molly Doerner commented that DUET is forming the Earth Month planning committee. Fred requested a report at the February meeting. She passed around a signup sheet for volunteers.

G. Education and Research (Don Mayer)

Don Mayer was not present to give a report but Fred said the committee is underway.

H. Best Practices (Tiffany Hutchings)

Tiffany said that the committee is meeting on January 18 at 8 a.m. in Cherrington Hall. They are working with Sharon Gabel on adding a sustainability competency to the evaluation system and on education modules for students and faculty.

IV. Candidate Presentations for Sustainability Coordinator

Fred said he asked the three final candidates for the Sustainability Coordinator, Lynne Cassidy, Christy Cerrone, and Chad King, to make 10-minute presentations and then respond to questions. Each candidate gave a presentation and answered questions. Fred said they would be in additional interviews and tours through the rest of today. He asked for feedback from the group as soon as possible.

V. Announcements

Chris MacMillan announced that Jon Bortles, who is a Daniels MBA alum and past member of the Sustainability Council, has taken a position as the Director of Sustainability at the Auraria Campus.

Megan Marshall proposed having another spring Sustainability Mixer.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10 a.m.

Meeting Schedule (All meetings are Thursday from 8:30 – 10 a.m. in Driscoll Room 1864)

- February 9 (Driscoll Room 1880)
- March 8
- April 12
- May 10
- June 14
- July 12