

MINUTES

Sustainability Committee Meeting

October 16, 2014

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. EAD 524

Welcome & Minutes

- Sandy Bauman, Chairman of the committee called the meeting to order.
 - Sallie Spotanski is the co-chair and Patricia Dossey is the secretary. New members introduced themselves to the committee and explained why they want to serve on it.
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Committee Business

- Sustainability was defined as “meeting the present needs without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs (1987 Brundtland Report)”. The three components of sustainability are environmental conservation, social responsibility, and economic development. Health care is incorporating sustainability. This is a quote by Loel Solomon, VP of Community Relations for Kaiser Permanente: “We come at our environmental work from a health perspective, not because it’s the green thing to do. The same strategies that reduce toxicity in our environment and reduce CO₂ emissions and conserve energy are the same strategies that reduce illness in our society and reduce society’s health care costs.”
 - About the Sustainability Committee: The mission is to promote sustainability with the campus community and larger Fort Worth area and support our university’s mission of creating solutions for a healthier community. The goals are to advance sustainable practices, enhance communication, provide suggestions, and vote on campus initiatives. [Please review more information on the website.](#)
 - Subcommittee Signup: Members signed up for subcommittees which include: Earth Day, Campus Outreach, Community Garden, Recycling, Energy Efficiency, and Bylaws. If you missed the meeting, please let Sandy know what subcommittee you’d like to serve on.
 - Updates/Newsletters: Committee members get monthly updates and newsletters (3-4 times per year). Please pass this information along within your department/school.
 - Facebook: Please “like” the SustainableUNTHSC Facebook page.
 - Budget: The budget for the committee this term is \$25,000. Five thousand is allotted to support Fort Worth Bike Share.
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UNTHSC Values

- Cari Hyden, Communications Director in Marketing and Communications asked for feedback about how the new values are being accepted on campus. Members were able to give their opinion, and the group discussed it.
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Announcements

- Food Day is a celebration and movement for healthy, affordable, and sustainable food. It is celebrated on October 24th, and this year, UNTHSC has several ways for people to join in. Wednesday, October 22nd, we will be showing the Growing Cities documentary at noon in MET 109-111. Attendance is free and a reusable produce bag will be given to attendees. Thursday is a walking tour of the UNTHSC Community Garden. Meet at noon in the Library Courtyard. Friday is the Food Competition with the Nutrition Club.
 - Thursday, November 20th, in partnership with International Education, we will show the Flow: For Love of Water documentary at 5:30 in LIB 110.
 - Sustainability Liaison winners will be announced at the Leadership meeting on November 6th. Sustainability Liaison of the Year was Unnati Patel, Office of Grant and Contract Management. Award of Excellence in Sustainability was ITSS HSC Telecommunications (Sally Ross, liaison).
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Subcommittee Updates

- Community Garden: Betsy Friauf, Garden Coordinator, gave an update on the garden. We plan to add 10 plots in February. There are currently 5 people on the waiting list. The garden has been doing tours and has two the week of Food Day and has donated 61.5lbs of produce to a local food bank so far.
 - Campus Outreach: This subcommittee is currently working on a lab certification program to get the labs involved in energy savings, sustainable purchasing, waste reduction, etc. We plan to pilot the labs this year then launch it to the entire campus next year.
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Proposal to Subsidize Transit E-Passes

- E-passes are the annual bus and or train passes that The T's Fort Worth Transportation Authority gives us for a discounted price. They are available to all students and employees, and they run from January to December every year.
 - There are 3 types of passes:
 - 1. Local (Fort Worth only)
 - 2. Zone 1 (Fort Worth buses and the TRE (train) from DFW to Fort Worth)
 - 3. Regional (entire Metroplex)
 - Typically, The T gives us passes at a value of 50% off the monthly price for a year. Between 2012 and 2013 the E-pass prices rose significantly and we saw a 44% decrease in E-pass users between those years. Last year, three groups subsidized the passes and we saw a 65% increase in users.
 - The Office of Sustainability is recruiting organizations with the university to subsidize the passes to about a 75% discount in order to get more people riding.
 - So far, Facilities has decided to help subsidize the passes. Discussion is being held with EBAC to share the cost of subsidizing the passes as well.
 - The proposal was for the committee to subsidize the passes for \$4000 like last year.
 - Motion was made by Sallie Spotanski and it was seconded by Betsy Friauf. Unanimous approval by committee members.
 - This takes the budget down to \$16,000 for the rest of the year.
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New Business

- Prior to the meeting, Ana Luz Chiapa-Saifres asked if the committee was willing to buy more water stations for particular places on campus. We had a brief discussion but ran out of time. We will address this in the next meeting.
 - No other new business was addressed by committee members.
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Housekeeping

Meeting Adjourned at 1:02 pm. The next meeting will be 12/12/2014 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. in EAD 514.