

# MINUTES

## Sustainability Committee Meeting

December 12, 2013

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. EAD 524

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### Welcome & Minutes

- Sallie Spotanski, Co - Chairman of the committee called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.
  - Minutes from the previous meeting held on October 24, 2013 were voted upon. Brent Shell made a motion to accept the minutes and Leilani Dodgen seconded. The minutes were accepted unanimously with note being made to correct the spelling of Sallie's last name.
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### Announcements & Updates

- Water Stations - Sandy Bauman announced there are 18 stations which have been strategically placed on campus. Four new water stations to be installed in LIB during January or February with the library restroom renovations. This has enabled some groups to not buy plastic water bottles. Student orientation is considering handing out reusable water bottles that would reduce the waste produced during those weeks. That is possible partially possible because of the number of stations on campus. We do not plan for the committee to purchase any more. Now, departments can purchase it themselves or they will be installed as part of renovations.
  - 2013 Transportation Survey– Six hundred and nineteen responses were received from the survey, and Sandy will use the results to make recommendations to upper management.
  - E-Pass Update: There was about a 40% increase in passes from 2013 to 2014. The EBAC committee agreed in November to assist with contributing to this program. Therefore, 3 groups contributed to the subsidy. The committee spend \$3785 towards the subsidy.
  - Recycling Greeting Cards for St. Jude's Ranch for Children: Numerous cards have been received and this program will continue through January 31st. Remember that Disney, Hallmark or American Greeting cards are not allowed.
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### Subcommittee Updates

- Earth Day: The Earth Day committee met in November and determined there would be more food at the 2014 event which will be held in the MET Building on both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Several suggestions and comments were made by those attending this meeting, and Sandy will be presenting these comments to the appropriate committee chairs. More information will be forthcoming.
  - Recycling: Progress is being made to have a greener campus with signs on trash cans and recycle bins around the campus. The subcommittee has many ideas for increasing the efficiency and use of the program that will center on education, getting the custodial staff involved, and making bins more prevalent on campus.
  - Think Tank: This group is focused on relating sustainability and healthcare here at the university. We have plans to design a Green Lab program that would include a freezer maintenance program. In addition, we're looking at starting conversations on a wellness program here and getting the clinics on board with programs such as Practice Greenhealth. We will come up with a plan then present it to the president.
  - Energy Conservation: No report given at this time.
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### Community Garden Funding Proposal

- A brief presentation regarding the community garden was made by Sandy as Misty and Betsy were both absent. It consisted of:
  - ❖ What is a community garden? How would it benefit the campus and community?
  - ❖ Garden specifics
  - ❖ Seeking sources of funding (donations, grants, etc.)
  - ❖ Seeking \$8,000 from the committee for startup costs.

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- Following a brief discussion between committee members the request of \$8,000 for the start-up of this project, a motion was made by Greg Hanson and seconded by Patricia Dossey to approve the amount requested. The motion carried unanimously.
- Betsy Friauf's expertise who works in the Marketing and Communications Dept. will greatly benefit this project. The progress for the garden will take place in intervals as the project will take 3-5 years to complete. There will be 15 plots available the first year, and only UNTHSC people will be allowed to have one. We will expand the garden eventually to about 40 plots and open it up to the community.
- The location of the garden will be in the green area on W7th. The green area is located between St. Emilion's French Restaurant 3633 W7th and the Grounds Bldg. 3629 W7th St.
- The garden is currently accepting donations for supplies and for monetary support. Our build day will be on February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Specific information will be available to the campus starting in January, and registration will begin January 6<sup>th</sup>.

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## **New Business**

- There was no new business to discuss.

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## **Housekeeping**

- The next meetings will take place in February and April TBD. Meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.