

Environmental Advisory Committee
Minutes for March 23, 2006

Present: Will Backe, David Bahr, Erika Bailey-Johnson, Anna Carlson, Kyle Crocker, Tessa Haagenson, Lois J. Jenkins, Wendy Larson, Rich Marsolek, Patrick Welle

Guests: Bill Maki and Jeanne Edevold Larson (Center for Research and Innovation)

Erika Bailey-Johnson, Co-Chair, convening

Pat W. expressed appreciation for administrative involvement in developing a strategy for accomplishing our goals.

Jeanne Larson first went through with us the goals/issues outlined at our March 9 meeting in order to clarify what is behind each goal's inclusion. Below is an expanded listing.

- 🌍 Focus on **values and behavior**
- 🌍 Reestablish a **Service Learning Coordinator** at BSU
 - For economy of effort, to assist with the community service component of People and the Environment courses, to tie in with the Civic Engagement Signature Theme, to work with the Leadership Center being discussed
- 🌍 Work toward including a community service component in **People and the Environment** courses
 - Closely connected to the Service Learning Coordinator goal
- 🌍 Establish a **Campus Sustainability Coordinator**
 - To coordinate assessment, to pursue grants, to attend conferences and gather information, to serve as or work with a campus naturalist
- 🌍 Determine our progress toward compliance with the **Kyoto Accords**, e.g., through measuring our greenhouse gas emissions since 1990 (Steve Monson?), encouraging Bemidji participation in the national mayors' Climate-Control Pact (perhaps Tessa could meet with Mayor Lehmann)
 - To quantify benchmark levels for the physical plant and fleet
- 🌍 Mandate that **hybrid vehicles** be the first choice in fleet replacements
 - Tied to the Kyoto Accords goal
- 🌍 Increase and standardize the **recycled content** of paper (and other supplies) purchased by BSU Stores
 - Also strive to reduce overall consumption and explore alternatives to paper
- 🌍 Promote **green building design** and indoor air quality, through contractor oversight, consistent information to general maintenance workers, and possible pursuit of grants
 - Not simply promote, but implement green building design; make a strong connection to health
- 🌍 Explore **transportation alternatives**

- Including bicycles, shuttle buses, and hybrids
- 🌍 Expand **native planting**/reforestation efforts and monitor pesticide use
 - Eliminate, not monitor, pesticide and fertilizer use for sustainable grounds keeping; collaborate with the municipality, the DNR, the SWCD, etc.
- 🌍 **Solid waste reduction and recycling**
- 🌍 Reform and transform **food service practices**, including handling of food waste
- 🌍 **Documentation and recognition** of individual/group efforts

Jeanne then directed us to prioritize these goals, not necessarily in terms of importance, but what is most doable now. Pat W. suggested that, because most of the goals are interrelated, we should think about what is achievable for each goal in the near term, mid term, and long term. Attached is the strategy matrix resulting from our discussions as guided by Jeanne and written down and submitted by her.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Wendy Larson