

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
October 28th, 2011
2pm

Present:

EAC Members: Dave Bahr, Tim Brockman, Erika Bailey-Johnson, Dana Danielson, Seth Duncan, Hannah Hutchins, Lesa Lawrence, Rich Marsolek, Dave Souba

Guests: Brett Cease, Sam Parsons

Topics Discussed:

- Brett Cease introduced his Green Corp position. He'll be working partly with the city of Bemidji and the campus community on environmental initiatives.
- Hannah Hutchins is the new student Co-Convener for the EAC
- SFE (Students for the Environment) update:
 - Students want to end the sale of bottled water on campus
 - Working on a bottled water policy
 - EAC members are encouraged to help think of a slogan for this campaign (other than "ban")
 - Volunteering and showing documentaries (Buyer Be Fair)
- Rich talked about Mitigation Strategies from the Climate Action Plan (CAP)
 - Here is a link to the CAP:
http://bemidjistate.edu/sustainability/policies/presidential_commitment/
 - EAC needs to discuss the CAP and mold the plan to fit BSU's needs
 - Does EAC agree with the CAP's suggestions?
 - Make recommendations to administration
 - Within the mitigation strategies, the first focus will be on energy efficiency
 - People felt that would have the biggest impact compared to other topics
 - Please look over document, and if you find a topic interesting, feel free to take on the task
- Policies to discuss in the future
 - Fleet Policy – structure to replacing vehicles
 - A student in the Sustainability Office is working on this
 - Will require EAC input in the future
 - Sustainable Procurement Policy – everything purchased through BSU
 - A student in the Sustainability Office is working on this
 - Will require EAC input in the future
 - Water Bottle Policy
 - SFE is working on this
 - Will require EAC input
 - The EAC meeting on Dec. 2nd will be dedicated to discussing this policy
- Re Rev (<http://rerev.com/>)

- A student group from People & the Environment is working on getting these in the Rec. Center
- This Wednesday (2nd), the students will present to Student Senate to request \$8,000 from Green Fee to support this project
- Rec. Center is giving approximately \$12,000
- We'd be the first institution in MN to have Re Rev
- Solar Transpired Air
 - RREAL (Rural Renewable Energy Alliance) will be doing a feasibility study on this
 - Solar Panels would pre-warm the fresh air coming into the buildings instead of Natural Gas doing it
- Commuter Survey will be going on shortly, more people that take it the better!
- Tim Brockman mentioned having a student rep. from NTC on EAC
- Dave Bahr gave his presentation on the Biomass Project
 - Dr. Bahr has looked into the feasibility of a biomass CHP system over by the residence halls
 - He has already met with the Sustainability Office, Residential Life Office, and Physical Plant, whom have approved a formal feasibility study to be done
 - Dr. Bahr has done preliminary estimates on cost savings and CO2 emission reduction
 - Discussion also centered around the value of Maple Hall to the University, yet demolition is slated

Respectfully submitted,
Hannah Hutchins