

Environmental Advisory Committee
November 4th, 2014
11:00am to Noon, Ozawindib

Attendance:

Dave Bahr, Erika Bailey-Johnson, Nina Johnson, Lesa Lawrence, Alexandra Miller, Jennifer Miner (ARAMARK), Skyler Vold

Guests:

Anna Carlson, Sara Dennison, Natasha Lukacs, Patrick Welle

1. Intro
2. Students for the Environment Report (Alex)
 - a. Half-Way to Earth Day Celebration/Campus Sustainability Day: Oct. 22nd
 - b. Meetings are Wednesdays at 2:00pm
 - c. New officers: Jordan Morgan (President), Taylor Barrett (Vice-President), Breanna Wagner (Treasurer), Alexandra Miller (Secretary)
3. Sustainability Office Report (Erika)
 - a. **New Assistant Sustainability Director Position:** Hired Anna Carlson this fall! Thank you to Nina Johnson, Laurie Desiderato, Dylan Seivers, John Frazier, and Alex Miller for being on the hiring committee.
 - b. **Jordan Morgan:** Congratulations to him for being a Doris Duke Scholar in Washington State! He also spoke at the scholarship breakfast this fall.
 - c. **Alex Miller:** Selected as the National Wildlife Federation featured EcoLeader
 - d. **Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability, UMACS Conference:** this June 18-19 at BSU!
 - e. **Campus Garden:** full again with a waiting list this year. Planted a rock garden on the east side of the garden and rescued plants from the Laurel House and Memorial Hall constructions.
 - f. **Shoreline Sculpture:** In June, Minnesota chainsaw artist Curtis Ingvoldstad created the beautiful work of art out of the white pine that was cut down for the artificial turf.
 - g. **Native Landscaping Workshop:** Partnered with the City of Bemidji, Karvakko Engineering, the DNR, Master Gardener's, and a local permaculture expert to host a workshop at the end of May. Very Successful, looking to have annually
 - h. **University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Conference:** Erika went to this conference in June; focused on native landscaping, gardening, and dining services
 - i. **Outdoor classroom:** Using white pine from the football field, have to be careful because of the Hagg Sauer construction; have a design ready
 - j. **High School Property:** Anna and Erika have been working with John Peterson to make the property, called University Heights, be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Neighborhood certified. Anna to become LEED certified as well.

- k. **Kummer Landfill:** checking into building a solar garden on this site
 - l. **Loop the Lake Festival:** Held in June with the opening of the Nice Ride bikes
 - m. **Nice Ride** came this summer: 100 bikes on BSU campus!
 - n. **Laurel House:** NTC is building an Energy Star building for 4 honor students
 - o. **Green Corps:** Sara's term ended in August, did not receive another member because we are too "advanced" so go us!
 - p. Presentations, tours, and talks going on all the time on BSU
4. EAC By-Laws need to be updated (Erika)
 - a. Currently: 21 voting members, 1 from each of the colleges, 5 faculty, 5 students, 5 unions, several standing members
 - b. Faculty: Change to "1 at large" to accommodate 4 colleges (Bemidji School of Nursing)
 - c. Change "Sustainability Coordinator" to "Sustainability Director" and add "Assistant Sustainability Director"
 - d. Suggestion of adding a NTC representative
 - e. Bring the total up from 21 to 23 (adding a member from the Bemidji school of Nursing and the Assistant Sustainability Director)
 - f. New Co-Conveners: One student and one non-student. Alex Miller is interested in being the student co-convener. Looking for a non-student co-convener.
 5. Sustainability Campus Endowment (Erika)
 - a. 2 submissions
 - b. Hunter Edberg and Randall Riehl were awarded \$500 for their fossil fuel free fish house application
 6. Association for the Advancement in Higher Education Conference (AASHE) (Erika, Sara, Anna)
 - a. Anna, Sara, and Erika attended October 25-30
 - b. Revolving Green Fund: Money saved from energy efficiency projects collected and put into a fund for more projects.
 - c. Divestment: Divest campus endowments from fossil fuel industry
 - d. Sara presented on the benefits of the GreenCorps program
 - e. Other ideas: Green Fellowship for tenure, sustainability education "inventory", STARS (award program through AASHE)
 - f. Erika presented about the Wellness model
 - g. Other ideas: Outdoor exercise "gym", Bike Friendly University, STARS, offsetting carbon emissions for air travel, become a "tree campus", biodiesel, food service
 - h. BSU is "old" so good job us!
 - i. Next year: October 25-28 in Minneapolis! Erika will be on the steering committee
 7. UMACS Committee (Erika)
 - a. Conference will be June 18-19. Go over logistics, meet once a month
 - b. Conference SubCommittee: Sara, Nina, Alex, Anna, Jennifer, Dan, Pat