

Environmental Advisory Committee
January 26th, 2015
Ozawindib – 3pm

Attendance:

Erika Bailey-Johnson, Brian Brown, Paul Ekhoﬀ, Jennifer Miner, Nina Johnson, Skyler Vold, Dan Vosberg

Guests:

Jordan Morgan, Natasha Lukacs, and Mikaela Boyd

1. Students for the Environment report (Jordan)
 - Meetings are now Mondays at 7 pm in the Sustainability Office
 - i. Pizza Party meeting for more newcomers Monday the 26th
 - The Do It in the Dark Competition starts February 1st
 - Earth Month starts in April! Many plans going already and looking to partner with other organizations on campus. Talk with Jordan Morgan or Alex Miller for more details.
2. Sustainability Office report (Erika)
 - Fossil Fuel Free Fish house has reached Phase 2! The shell has been purchased.
 - i. PV solar panels will provide most of the power
 - ii. Plan to have a Wood Stove back up for heat
 - iii. Working with RREAL for the solar air heat and possibly NTC for the solar electric
 - iv. Tim Brockman will be working with BSU students to help finish the interior. He will be using the old knotty pine that was previously in the Sustainability Office. Leech Lake Tribal College is currently making tongue and groove out of the pine.
 - Plans for an Ice Rink in place of the old tennis courts is being discussed; students are extremely excited and supportive, so is Residential Life
 - i. It would be used for intramurals and leisure
 - ii. So far administration has shown much support for this idea, but there is also plans for a parking lot for that space
 - iii. For the summer months, we would plan to make the area a space to grow storable crops for dining services to use
 - UMACS is being held on campus in June 2015 and meetings will be starting up soon to plan the details for the event.
3. Bottled Water Policy (Erika) – This policy is being talked about in Student Senate currently. It should be put to a vote next week. We had discussed, and agreed to send a memo from the EAC to administration and Student Senate. This memo would show the EACs support for this Student Senate Bill. This Bill would exclude the Chet Anderson Stadium. The Student Senate has already passed a bill that approves getting more Elkay water bottle stations around campus. Some concerns that were discussed include the following.
 - We spend about \$15,000 per year on bottled water. Will this impact ARAMARK in any way?
 - How and when will these Elkay stations be put in? This is not planned out yet, however it would depend on some of the remodeling plans that are already in place here on campus.
 - How will we market these Elkay stations?
 - How will we inform and educate students about this policy so that those who work in any of the food locations on campus do not have to constantly hear complaints?
 - Educate those who are working in a food location to explain the policy to those who have questions.
 - It is important to emphasize our Environmental Stewardship signature theme
 - We cannot prevent people from buying bottled water elsewhere, however we can do our part by encouraging the turn towards tap water

- The costs of including more labor for washing more cups and making water available would essentially equal out
 - It's much better from a sustainability perspective to have cups that can be used and washed for several years vs. providing individual bottles for events and activities
 - Make an effort to have more reusable water bottles for sale in the Bookstore and allow students to refill those containers with other beverages (coffee, soda) as well
4. Transportation Discussion (Erika): Tabled until next meeting
 5. Pesticide and Herbicide Use on Campus discussion (Natasha): Natasha Lukacs provided a lot of background info on the pesticides that are used on campus for spiders.
 - The product Demand CS has been being used here on campus for 11 years.
 - The reason we spray is to keep the spiders off of the windows and the windows are sprayed before they are washed
 - We use a concentration of 0.015-0.03 % when a concentration of 0.06% is recommended for spiders
 - The Library has not been sprayed for the last 8 years because concerns about the use of this product were brought up by a few faculty members in the library. These faculty members request that the building not be sprayed.
 - There appears to be no issue with spiders in the library on webs on the windows.
 - This chemical is highly toxic to aquatic life and it was pointed out that spiders would be more troublesome closer to the lake.
 - We hope to eliminate the use of this pesticide on campus.
 - Comments included: are we under contract with Midwest Pest Control? What are the alternatives? and What will happen if we do not spray?
 6. Strategic Planning/STARS (Erika): At the very end of the meeting we did some categorizing to begin the process of creating the new Strategic Plan for Sustainability. The individual strategies from the old Strategic Plan were on strips of paper. The new categories we will be using (from STARS) were written on large sheets of paper. EAC members were each given a few strategies and were told to try to place them in the category that made the most sense.

Next meeting: Monday, Feb. 9th, at 3:00pm in Ozawindib

Respectfully submitted,
Natasha Lukacs