

Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2:30pm

Presiding: Dave Lococo & Kathleen Smythe

Attendees: Kelly M. Akers, Steve Cobb, George Farnsworth, Pickett Slater Harrington, Annette Marksberry, Doug Olberding, Kiki Richardson, Mary Rosenfeldt, Greg Schaber, Brett Simmons, Samantha Thomeczek

Next meeting: January 12, 2008, 7:30 am, Physical Plant Large Conference Room

Meeting called to order at: 1:00pm

Minute Taker: Pickett Slater Harrington

Document Review:

1. Minutes from November 11, 2008 were approved.

Discussion Items:

1. **Goals for 2009:** Committee reviewed the condensed version of the goals and gave their thoughts.

- Tangible Actions Committee-Need to be clear that we are gathering information and not actually charged with implementing the ideas we receive. We must be sure people are clear about the difference. We also need to state this on the website. We need to send the message that we are inventorying and tracking and people should let us know what is happening but we are not charged with implementing.
- The committee must make sure we can meet the goals we are outlining. The institutional plan is the beginning but we should not just meet the letter of the law. We must be serious about the commitment. We need to be more blunt and realistic about what is happening. We are changing a culture and a way of thinking. We need resources and buy in to make these changes. We must get better at communicating and we have to be patient and persistent. We must communicate to Father Graham what additional resources and support is necessary. We need tangible dollars to apply toward achieving goals. For example a representative on the Financial Review Committee is important as well as some sort of paid resource to help the committee keep things moving. The committee must also consider our methodology of how we implement change.
- Student Committee-We must be clear on how things happen and does it take into consideration all parts of the Presidents Climate Commitment. Has Xavier signed the Presidents Climate Commitment for publicity or to create real change. We have to be serious about our commitment.

2. **CSM Articles:** Committee reviewed articles and made comments based on relevant article content.

- Is it possible to monitor energy consumption based on individual buildings? It could be done, meters could be installed on main lines to buildings however because of where the meters would need to be located it could be very difficult and expensive to install.
- If this could be done we could allocate utility costs to different colleges or departments then encourage energy conservation. The college or department could keep the cost savings. Or the University could use it to create a fund based on total energy savings that can be shared among colleges and departments or used to fund other carbon reduction initiatives.

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- The articles discussed several different funding streams that the committee has considered and we should begin to explore them in more detail.

3. **Academic Day:** The committee discussed the idea of incorporating the theme of sustainability into Academic Day 2009.

- Spoke with Kandi Stintson about the idea and she seemed excited. We must decide if this is something we want to pursue
- If we pursue this we need to do a lot of groundwork to get buy in. We can't just spring this idea on people. There must be education and marketing and ways of getting people to buy in.
- Because of the effort that is required we must make a decision early and fully commit. We must consider how the committee will function if we take this on. Will the planning aspect overwhelm the committee given our other tasks and time constraints?
- Let's think it over and make a decision by our next meeting. (January 12, 2009)

4. **Retreat Agenda:** The committee reviewed and discussed the upcoming retreat scheduled for January 30, 2009.

- The retreat will be January 30, 2009 from 2 pm – 5 pm.
- We need volunteers to lead portions on the agenda
 - Neutrality-Steve
 - Tangible Actions-Doug, Student Subcommittee
 - Institutional Action Plan-
 - Structure-
- If anyone would like to lead a section during the retreat please let the committee chairs know

5. **Peterson's:** Committee discussed the possibility of including our efforts in a public report.

- This is a survey about sustainability effort on campus. Contains questions about how Xavier is answering the call for sustainability.
- It is a public report and would share Xavier efforts to the broader community.
- Lots of the areas and questions on the survey have not been met by Xavier because we are just beginning to address sustainability.
- Perhaps we should wait to share our efforts publicly until we get more accomplished

6. **NWF Campus Ecology:** Committee reviewed request to join National Wildlife Fund.

- National Wildlife Fund wants our committee to become a member. Please review the info brochure that is being passed around. We need to decide if we would like to join.
- The committee didn't think we needed to join at this time.

7. **Recyclemania:** The committee heard a presentation on Xavier University Recyclemania

- Stacy Decker from Physical Plant gave a presentation on Recyclemania. It is a campus competition that encourages the campus community to recycle. The competition goes on for 10 weeks.
- This year they are looking for ideas of how to get more people involved. If anyone has any ideas or would like to help please let Stacy know.

- Committee members Pickett Slater Harrington, Annette Marksberry, KiKi Richardson and Mary Rosenfeldt volunteered to meet at a later day with Stacy to give input.

8. **Subcommittee discussion:** Committees reported on new developments.

- Funding Committee- We are developing goals for 2009. What are the priorities for the committee in regards to funding?
 - Project Metering
 - pursue a grant to support metering buildings on campus
 - Sustainability Employee
 - paid or in-kind support for the committee in the way of a part-time or full-time employee
 - Budget
 - creation of a budget (actual funds and in-kind support) so we know what resources we have and what it will take to support our efforts
 - Budget number to use to access funds when necessary
 - Funds
 - Actual dollars to support our goals as well as dollars to support events and activities such as Academic Day

Meeting was adjourned.