UF Sustainability Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

10/13/2016

1:00-3:00pm

Reitz Union Rm 2340

Attendance:

Mark Robinson

Matt Williams

Connie Nicklin

John Duncan

Jenny Olmstead

Allison Vitt

Tara Cataldo

Dave Looney

Liz Storn

Ernesto Escoto

Ann Lindell (Phone)

Ravi Srinivasan (Phone)

Damian Adams (Phone)

1. Introductions of the Committee Members
2. Nominations & vote on chair
   1. Mark Robinson opens the floor for nominations for a new chair
      1. Tara Cataldo nominated Mark Robinson
         1. Mark declined his nomination
      2. Mark Robinson nominated David Looney, Tara Cataldo seconded
         1. David Looney was elected unanimously
         2. David Looney accepted his nomination
         3. Overview of the charge of the committee
   2. Last year the committee discussed modifying its charge
      1. Specific changes were not discussed
   3. Matthew Williams reviewed the current charge of the committee and the types of committees that exist
      1. The Sustainability Committee is a Joint Committee
      2. The current charge of the committee is over a decade old
      3. Mark Robinson reviewed the sub-committee structure from last year’s activities
         1. Policy Review
         2. Waste Diversion
         3. Communication
         4. Power Management
         5. Transportation
   4. Discussion of the Business of the Committees
      1. Tara Cataldo updated on the Policy Committee
         1. Will focus on the Purchasing Policy first, specifically with an eye to the paper purchasing policy
      2. Mark Robinson discussed Tim Vinson’s work on the Waste Diversion Committee
         1. Dave Looney discussed the styrofoam policy on campus - on campus vendors have removed styrofoam
            1. Off-campus vendors have been asked to do the same - vendors expressed concerns about the final destination of compostable goods
            2. Discussion of the possibility of a compost drop-off point for vendors
      3. Mark Robinson discussed the Communications Sub-Committee
         1. Goals were to implement periodic forums where local stakeholders can discuss community interest in sustainability topics
         2. Partly to discuss UF’s sustainability story and projects, partly for outside groups to share and connect about their own projects
      4. Mark Robinson discussed the Power Management Sub-Committee
         1. Focus was on computers/printers/etc
         2. Power management software implementation and recommendations
      5. Brief discussion of the Transportation Sub-Committee
         1. No major progress was made
      6. Ernesto Escoto discussed the possibility of establishing a sub-committee on staff and faculty well-being
      7. Connie Nicklin discussed her work with the Green Labs working group and the Green Office Certification program
         1. Liz Storn discussed the possibility of bringing in her interns working on the Green Office Certification Program to present about the progress of the program at a future Sustainability Committee meeting
3. Overview of the Office of Sustainability priorities and projects for the year
   1. Matt Williams discussed and gave a brief presentation (attached)
   2. Strategic Development Plan discussed
      1. Density around the campus core
      2. Land grant mission
      3. Strong neighborhoods and communities
      4. Recentering of gainesville around the campus
      5. Provides many opportunities for sustainability topics to be advanced
         1. Composting
         2. Recycling
         3. Local food programs
         4. Clean streams
         5. Looking for 18mos to completion projects, likely starting in January
4. Overview of campus sustainability needs and priorities for the year (beyond OOS)
   1. Campus priorities are shifting to move more strongly towards town/gown relationships and initiatives
   2. The Strategic Development Plan Public Forums are an excellent source of information
      1. Goals from Public Forums will be evaluated
   3. The Board of Trustees presentation is available online and has a lot of information about the goals of the plan
   4. Will also focus on building precincts in gainesville to strengthen equity and local businesses
   5. Increase walkability
   6. David Looney inquired if the Sustainability Committee is well represented with specialists to advance the topics that it wishes to pursue
      1. Matt Williams said that the committee members are a great start and that a request has been made to bring liaisons to the committee for specific areas as needed
   7. The OOS priorities are covered
      1. OOS would like to have the SC assist on topics outside of the scope of those topics
      2. The committee can use its advisory capacity to send letters to groups and entities in and around campus on relevant sustainability topics
      3. The SC can take presentations on existing and incoming projects and provide feedback and recommendations
   8. Discussion on the possible need to re-evaluate the structure and scope of the sub-committees; how can the SC best serve campus and the OOS?
5. Beginning discussion among committee of committee goals and priorities for the year
   1. Discussion of bike racks, bicycle master planning
   2. Discussion of LEED requirement changes
      1. Purchasing directives
         1. David Looney described his work on the Policy Sub-Committee last year related to purchasing of paper
            1. Found that recycled paper is a small portion of the paper purchased

Looked into the reasons why

* + - * 1. Important to address the reasons that purchasers make their decisions
        2. Discussion of the importance of establishing policies and guidelines that guide purchasers to make more sustainable choices
  1. Discussion of the moving target of sustainability and the need to revisit topics
  2. David Looney requested STARS gaps information for next meeting

Meeting Adjourned: 2:35pm