Sustainability Committee Meeting – 05-13-2016

Attendance:

**Members:** Mark Robinson, Connie Nicklin, Theresa Badurek (phone), Chris Martinez, Tara Tobin Cataldo, Tim Vinson, Ruth Steiner (phone), Kitty Emery

**Liaisons:** Matt Williams

**Guests:** Liz Storn, Dustin Stephany

1. Approve Minutes from March Meeting
   1. Minutes approved unanimously
2. Committee Chair Selection
   1. Discussion was tabled due to a lack of a quorum.
3. Subcommittee Reports
   1. Policy Sub Committee
      1. Tara updated that the committee met this week to review all of the collected information to decide where to start
         1. Will first focus on a combined purchasing & waste policy
            1. Planning to work within the requirements for LEED EB standards with the knowledge that it will cover all necessary areas.
         2. Next meeting will be to review the existing documents
            1. Liz Storn sent Tara the LEED EB requirements & a summary document that Tara will review and send out to the subcommittee.
         3. Following meeting will be to discuss with Allen Masters and Lisa Deal
            1. There will be a way to call in to the subcommittee for members who are out of town.
      2. Dustin Stephany discussed that he is working with Environmental Health & Safety to revise their IPM policy to meet LEED EB standards. Dustin will send out the policy to the committee for review
         1. Goal of the policy is to use least toxic & invasive solutions first
         2. EH&S pest management has highly qualified team who identify the pests, determine if the number of pests meets the threshold for action, and develops an action plan to address pest concerns
         3. In discussion, it was noted that other departments that use pesticides (i.e. Grounds) also need to be included in the discussions
            1. It was recommended that Grounds have a policy to use low-maintenance, low-water landscaping
   2. Waste Diversion Subcommittee
      1. Tim Vinson indicated no meeting had occurred, but he was planning to reconvene the group to focus on areas where PPD would like assistance
   3. Communication Subcommittee
      1. Chris Martinez indicated no meeting had occurred between Sustainability Committee Meetings
4. Office of Sustainability Update
   1. We had a successful Collection Day on April 22nd
      1. Approximately 100 individuals dropped off items
         1. We’re still waiting on the weights
      2. Organizations included Alachua County Hazardous Waste, Tools for Schools, Have Hospice, EH&S, Asset Management, PPD
   2. Preview for new & transfer students has started
      1. Office of Sustainability tables at Preview to provide students and their parents information on sustainability & gives away reusable water bottles to students & families
         1. This year we are working with Cupanion (<http://cupanion.com/>) on water bottles for the students
            1. Cupanion provides a barcode sticker & app that allows us to track usage – every time they fill up the water bottle they can scan. After 100 scans, can receive a reward. Also entered for national Cupanion rewards

Geo-located to campus boundary

* + - * 1. Goal is to track refill usages & is a way to ensure that bottles come back in Fall semester with the students.

Last year Aramark only had ~4,000 refills for all students

* + - * 1. Allison is working with the bookstore for Preview-specific incentives
        2. Stickers cost $1 & the app is approximately $1000 for the year
        3. Other ideas for incentives include free Moe’s queso if you bring your bottle, etc.
      1. Currently not planning to do graduate orientation, but could expand in the future.
         1. Will also look to expand to faculty in staff if this is successful.
         2. Perhaps connect with UF Wellness water challenge next year as well
  1. Prairie Project
     + 1. Prairie Project Intensive workshop hosted on May 10th
          1. Targeting faculty who had been through the program before

Good conversation with idea of how to reinvigorate the program, including ideas of monthly or quarterly smaller meetings with different topics (pedagogy, living labs, problem-based learning, syllabi)

* 1. Bike Rental Program
     1. 75 bikes available to rent this summer
        1. Expanded to off-campus housing & international students for the summer
        2. Also doing registrations at Preview for the bikes
           1. After Preview will open to the rest of campus
     2. 100 more bikes to arrive mid to late June

1. Other Business
   1. Matt Williams mentioned the blueberry picking is starting
      1. Chris suggested that when plants are young, it is best to pull flowers off the plants or else they’ll put too much energy into the fruit instead of growing strong.
   2. AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education) conference registration opened this week for members interested in attending.
      1. <http://conference.aashe.org/>
      2. All UF faculty and staff get the member rate
      3. October 9-12
      4. OoS will participate on 5 panels, 1 case study, and 1 student summit presentation
   3. Ruth Steiner asked if the committee will continue to meet in the summer.
      1. It was decided at the last meeting to continue a 12-month schedule consistent will all other infrastructure committees
         1. Due to summer vacations, it was suggested to have 1 meeting this summer instead of monthly
            1. Mark will send a poll out – looking for an alternate time towards the middle of summer
            2. Call-in will be an acceptable option
2. Meeting adjourned 2:15pm