

WSU Sustainability & the Environment Committee MINUTES

DATE, TIME, & LOCATION: Friday March 4, 2011, 2:10-3:10pm, Lighty 405

ATTENDANTS:

1. Call to Order – Dwight Hagihara *Committee Interim Administrator*
2. Approval of February 4, 2011 Minutes – Dwight
3. Sustainability Surveys with the Institute of Research –Fran Hermison and Linda Pappel
 - a. Fran Hermison from the Institute of Research (IR) was invited to discuss how surveys are involved in WSU’s green movement. Surveys are important to sustainability, because sustainability is no longer a grass roots movement; it is main stream. After the grade was received for the College Sustainability Report Card, it became apparent that departments were receiving surveys, but not filling out surveys. The president sent a memo asking departments to pass surveys on to Institutional Research. Surveys that IR receives are then forwarded on to appropriate departments for the departments to fill out. If a department receives a survey, they have been tasked with forwarding the survey on to IR. IR will return the survey to the appropriate department.
4. Student Program for Battery Recycling – Skuylar Herzog
 - a. A battery recycling program in the CUB is being implemented. There will be two sub-programs, a free program and a program with an associated cost that the Environmental Task Force (ETF) will be paying. ETF is waiting for approval from the CUB for a container style. The batteries in the free sub-program are being hauled to the Whitman County Landfill by WSU Solid Waste Program. EHS, as part of an existing program, will be recycling the batteries that have an associated fee.
5. Sustainability Website Discussion– Jason Sampson
 - a. A place needs to be established on the Sustainability website for Statewide sustainability websites. It was proposed to add it on the left hand menu bar under a label for Statewide Sustainability Operations after Pullman University Operations.
6. 2010 Air and Water Quality Statistics – Gene Patterson and Marty O’Malley
 - a. Gene Patterson will cover Air and Stormwater with Compost if there is time. WSU has an air operating permit on campus. Two steam plants, an incinerator, Compost facility, feed prep plant, seed prep plant each emit different particles that we monitor and report annually. The annual report addresses semi-annual monitoring, compliance certification, emission inventory, and much more. Total pollutants that are emitted for the last three years don’t show much change. 2010 Greenhouse Gas Emissions are still being processed. Upcoming air emission issues include GHG reporting and reductions – commuter survey, air operating permit renewal, new boiler regulations, and emergency generators.

- b. Stormwater permit annual report is due at the end of March, and it includes all regional campuses. The report encompasses 37 WADOE questions which address WSU's Stormwater management plan like labeling 100% of catch basins, distributing educational materials to students and residents - housing has sent emails, posters on the electronic bulletin board at the CUB, articles in the Evergreen. Catch basin drains are not to have treatment if they drain directly into surface waters. Gene presented a design for a vinyl banner asking for approval from the SEC, was brought up that poster does not link to storm water. Further Stormwater annual report tasks include construction storm water permits, staff training, illicit dumping, notifying DOE of non-compliance and response, and total max daily loads.
 - c. Stormwater technical resource center is located on the western side of the state. WSU-Pullman is looking to develop a similar center on the eastern side. A committee is proposed with some members from the SEC and other areas of the university to develop and coordinate development efforts.
 - d. TMDLs- South Fork of the Palouse River is impaired. Entities are allocated a daily waste load to meet water quality standards. WSU is in compliance with Toxics but not fecal coliforms. EHS is working to locate and eliminate sources.
 - e. City construction. Post-Construction ordinance permit requirements are already met by CPD and FO; WSU is working on an agreement with the city, so that we don't have to apply for permits for every project.
 - f. Compost facility reporting - solid waste permit with WADOE and WCHD. 9792.5 tons of compost feed stocks in 2010. Compost utilization and application for 2010 5373.3 tons which is used on campus with some types sold to departments or off-campus buyers. One upcoming issue is the installation of the in-vessel composter which will increase compostable materials saving energy and reducing GHG emissions.
7. World.edu Invitation Vote - Dwight Hagihara
 - a. A concern was brought up about costs, especially hidden costs. It was suggested not to join.
 8. Comfortably Unaware Author Visit Vote - Dwight Hagihara
 - a. ETF and ESC will take this on and invite him.
 9. Open Discussion
 - a. Zimride ad is in the evergreen and is posted on various marketing options around campus. About 300 users in the last month.

NEXT MEETING: April 1, 2011 - Light 405 - 2:10pm-3:10pm