



Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

8:30 a.m.

Merkert-Tracy 250-251

MINUTES

Attendees: Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, Kristi Burkholder, Deb Carpenter, Erica Cordatos '19, Diane DeFrias, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Paulo Fontes, Jessa Gagne, Matt Gosselin '21, Caroline Grady '18, Michelle Guiney (Waste Management), Kyle Lockhart, Bob MacEachern, Bridget Meigs, Paul Ricci, Greg Wolfe

Excused: Andy Anderson, Nicole Casper, Kim Cordeiro, Doreen DelMonaco, Kathy Falcone, Tom McGrath, Peter Mercedes '20, Sue Mooney, Cheryl Schnitzer, Aleksandra Steele '19, Emily Van Auken '18

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. and was chaired by Greg Wolfe.

1. Minutes for the February 27th meeting were approved.
2. Waste Reduction Committee / Green 2Go Update – Kristi announced that the Green 2Go initiative is all set for its official launch on Monday, April 2nd. Volunteers will be very visible in their bright green t-shirts (thanks to the Green Fund) to provide assistance in the Dining Commons. The marketing campaign includes a photo shoot with ACE and others with their green containers. Martin McGovern is including a segment in the Monday Morning Update and social media is helping to spread the word. Greg stated that having more ESC volunteers at lunch and dinner would be very helpful. Kristi will recirculate the volunteer sign-up sheet.

There is a list of talking points but the three main points that volunteers are asked to communicate are that this initiative is **easy** – green containers are behind the counters at all stations, that it is **convenient** – seven drop-off locations across campus, and it is **less expensive** – just \$2 for the container that can last all year. Overall, we are doing this to prevent needless waste, to save students money, and to be more sustainable.

Erica stated that ENACTUS ran out of their 200 eco-clips in about 24 hours. Matt mentioned that the Green 2Go pilot program's 214 student pilot participants have helped to shape this initiative.

Kyle questioned what RAs should do when they find green 2Go containers in residence halls. This was identified as an issue during the Green 2Go pilot. Unfortunately, we cannot have drop-off boxes in residence halls because there is not a way to provide the eco-clips in return. The Committee is working on a solution.

3. Food Truth's Trashion Show – Caroline announced that the Trashion Show will be held during Earth Week on Thursday, April 26th at 9:30 p.m. at The Hill. They are seeking judges for the contest.
4. Paper Usage – Greg provided an update to the Committee. With the recent changes with Xerox, and losing our in-house Xerox staff, we are having trouble getting our usage data, but we will continue to work on that. He noted that we are buying more paper. The first nine months of this year we have spent \$21,853 versus \$20,316 last year, which is a 7% increase. However, we have

introduced many new controls including P-Counters in the Library, eLearn, and print release stations. Most color printing jobs seem to be completed in departments rather than at the Document Center. Greg plans to reach out to individual departments to assist in reducing their printing needs.

5. Other Business

Landfills - Michelle discussed the seriousness of landfills in Massachusetts, which are expected to reach capacity by 2020. Rhode Island and Connecticut are in the same situation. Over two million tons will have to be exported to other states, which will end up being very costly for customers.

Real Food - Bridget spoke about the working group meetings for the Real Food Commitment. Students are very committed and are making great progress this year with the calculator. They expect to have some good data shortly.

Composting – The Compost Team is looking into options for industrialized composting and the cost of doing this versus associated landfill fees. There is a lot of confusion and contamination with composting on our campus. Bruce stated that the biggest hurdle for industrialized composting is funding as it would take quite a bit more work force hours. Bob mentioned that Stonehill composts 50-100 pounds of pre-consumer organic waste per day, which is well below the State’s threshold for organic composting at an institution of our size. Michelle explained that the state’s calculation includes the number of students, the number of meals served per week, and other criteria. She will send this calculation to Greg and Cheryl.

Dishwashing Equipment - Greg discussed the new dishwashing equipment that will be installed in Roche this May. This equipment will reduce our water usage from over 100 gallons per hour to 57 gallons, which will have a significant impact on our overall water usage. It will save energy and sewer costs as well.

Jessa discussed boiler controls projects she is working on as well as the problem with the Merkert Gymnasium humidity. She is currently gathering data to help find the proper solution.

Earth Week - Bridget mentioned Earth Week events such as the SEA-sponsored bingo and campus clean up. She will reach out to Emily for a list of events.

New Building Projects - Craig explained that the Academic and Welcome Center is a very sustainable building, containing high-performance glass, heating and cooling system controls, LED lighting and room occupancy sensors. He also explained that over 90% of the Old Student Union building was recycled – bricks, scrap metal, etc. are used to make jersey barriers and new metal products. Much of the furniture was donated to the YMCA and area schools. The School of Business Building will have similar materials and products. Although it will be much larger than Stanger Hall, it will be more efficient. Greg noted that a lot of Stanger Hall’s furniture will be re-used in the Library CID project, the College Center, Merkert-Tracy and other areas.

6. Upcoming Events

April 19 from 1:00 to 2:15 in SBA 120 – Ethics and Science of Climate Change Student Presentations

April 22 at 7 p.m. - Earth Day Mass

April 26 from 9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at The Hill – Trashion Show

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.