



### **Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

9 a.m.

Via Zoom

### **MINUTES**

Attendees: Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, John Duggan, Kathleen Fitzgerald (Sodexo), Jessa Gagne, Joanna Ravello Goods, Gina Herosian '23, Eric LeFlore, Brittany Lorgeree, Laurie Mooney, Fr. Tim Mouton, Deb Norton, Paul Ricci, Rob Rodgers, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Colin Spencer, Greg Wolfe

The meeting commenced at 9:00 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

#### 1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Joanna Ravello Goods, Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and Laurie Mooney, Farm Director, introduced themselves to the group.

#### 2. **Meeting Minutes**

The February 22 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

#### 3. **Stonehill Teach-In on Climate and Justice**

Professor Eric LeFlore provided an update on this event, which has been rescheduled to April 20 from 5-8 pm in Martin Auditorium. This is in conjunction with the *Worldwide Teach-In* organized by Bard College, which has thousands of participants and organizations signed up from around the world. Its focus is on the next eight years – through 2030.

Stonehill's event will cover seven topics with panel discussions and guided conversations and will also include student dance, theater, and artwork. Cheryl, Jessa, Greg, Brittany, and Rob offered to assist with the discussions.

The seven topics are:

- Climate Science 101
- Daily Impact at Stonehill College Avoid Avoidance – Make positive changes
- Climate Justice and Equity
- Faith Community Role
- Biodiversity
- Climate Solutions

There was discussion on using the Green Fund for this event.

#### 4. **Joanna Ravello Goods, Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

Joanna provided an overview of her 20+ years in higher education. She discussed her belief that the systems within institutions effect students, and internal interventions are needed to improve conditions for students, faculty, and staff. Reporting to the Provost, this new position works cross-divisionally and collaborates with the Provost, Deans, Office of Intercultural Affairs, Human Resources, and Enrollment Management to support diversity and inclusion initiatives for prospective and current students, faculty, and staff.

The scope of her work includes:

- Strategic Planning and Assessment
- Faculty Engagement, Retention, and Advancement
- Faculty & Staff Leadership Development
- Community Development
- Reporting on DEI Efforts

Joanna explained that she is currently doing a lot of listening, reading reports, and is speaking with students and faculty. Concerns expressed to her include the different DEI actions across campus with no connection of efforts. Also, people want an assessment – are we moving forward in this area?

Discussion continued on the upcoming 21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge as well as on-campus food insecurity concerns.

#### 5. **Laurie Mooney, Farm Director**

Laurie discussed her ideas for expanding the compost program, creating a larger area at The Farm. She would like to bring in laying hens to serve as insectaries, to enhance the compost and make it more sanitary. Greg noted that he and Kathleen are happy to work with Laurie on her proposal. Increased composting efforts have been stymied in the past due to students contaminating the compost collection bins in the Dining Commons. Bruce and Paul also offered their support.

Laurie reviewed her 2022 growing season plan for the ten plot areas.

Rob will connect Laurie with the NRT's (Sheep Pasture) executive director, Jen Cummings, for possible collaborations.

#### 6. **Sub-Committee Updates**

Strategic Planning - Craig explained the financial challenges with solar installations. The next big energy trend is expected to be batteries. He also discussed that the ESC has its short-term goals, i.e., trash reduction, composting, Choose2Reuse, but we need to carefully develop our long-term goals.

Waste Reduction - No update was provided.

Choose2Reuse – The pilot continues; making sure it is working as intended.

Communications/Marketing - No update was provided.

Real Food – Gina noted that this year has been challenging, but she, Bridget Gill and Laurie Mooney will be meeting regularly to ramp up Food Truth for next year.

#### 7. **Upcoming Events**

- April 1 at 4:35 p.m.: **Outdoor Social Justice Stations of the Cross** begins behind the Chapel of Mary. This event is sponsored by the Office of Campus Ministry.
- April 4-24: **FSNE's 21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge**. For information and registration, click [here](#).
- April 19 at 6:35 p.m.: **Oxfam Hunger Banquet** interactive community event designed to bring hunger and poverty issues to life - Martin Auditorium
- April 20: **Stonehill Teach-In on Climate & Justice**, organized by professors Eric LeFlore and Martha Hauff, in conjunction with the *Worldwide Teach-In on Climate and Justice* organized by Bard College.
- April 22: **Earth Day**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

**Next meeting:**

April 26 at 9 a.m. via Zoom

***Please remember to send information about all campus wide sustainability-related initiatives to Deb in order to be captured in the next Sustainability Report.***

Submitted by Deb Norton  
Administrative Assistant