



# STONEHILL COLLEGE

## **Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

9 a.m.

Via Zoom

### **MINUTES**

Attendees: Craig Binney, Kristi Burkholder, Kim Cordeiro, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Jessa Gagne, Lori Harris, Gina Herosian, Brittany Lorgeree, Laurie Mooney, Fr. Tim Mouton, Deb Norton, Paul Ricci, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Colin Spencer, Greg Wolfe

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

#### **1. Meeting Minutes**

The May 24 meeting minutes were approved as amended.

#### **2. The Farm Update**

Laurie noted that The Farm is having a good season. She is hoping to provide additional produce from neighboring farms for the mobile market at the Brockton Neighborhood Health Clinic. Food donations are being provided to the Easton Food Pantry and My Brother's Keeper, and Laurie is working with United Health Care's Family Resource Center.

The Farm has planted winter squash and pumpkins, and Laurie is hoping to hold a fall festival in late-September. Kristi suggested that this might be a good fit for Professor LeFlore's freshman Environmental majors. The Peer Mentoring group could also participate. It was suggested that The Farm be a part of the Activities Fair in August. Laurie will contact Student Engagement for scheduling.

#### **3. Reuzzi Update**

Cheryl, Craig, Greg, and Kathleen have been meeting regularly to discuss the pilot program and what should be done differently. The Choose2Reuse student-version app has been rebranded as Reuzzi, which is now in professional development.

The hope is to hire 2-3 students, paid through the Green Fund, to assist with the Reuzzi rollout during the lunch and dinner shifts for the first two weeks of the school year. Hiring recommendations included students from the Anchors Society, ENV majors, SGA members, and orientation leaders.

There was discussion on creating a Reuzzi video to be shown during the FYE program as well as for upper classmen. Cheryl has reached out to SGA President Stephen Cobbs for his interest. Professor Ron Leone, Digital Media Production Program Director, may have suggestions as well.

Greg noted that the Green2Go program was most successful when single-use containers were not available to students. He will reach out to Pauline to see if that can be done again.

#### **4. Sustainability Webpage Update**

- Academics/Research – Rob
- Climate Change & Energy – Jessa shared graphics on our sustainability goals including energy intensity, water usage, greenhouse gas emissions and recycling rate.

- Food Systems & Permaculture – Laurie provided a write-up on The Farm’s practices and goals. She will also include some visuals for the webpage.
- Buildings & Infrastructure – Craig will provide info on the energy efficiency projects within various buildings on campus. Colin suggested that this be brief with links for further information.
- Student Activity/Campus Living – Gina is focusing on student organizations on campus, such as Food Truth, and their initiatives. She will include email links and Instagram handles for students who want to get involved.
- Waste & Recycling – Paul will touch base with Bob on this. They have good data showing the College’s annual progression in this area. They may also highlight campus contests and the recycling efforts in the Dining Commons.
- Reuzzi – Cheryl will handle this program.

#### 5. **September’s Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge**

Brittany and Greg will collaborate on this for September. Challenge documents will be made available on SharePoint. During the Challenge, participants will meet briefly to discuss the topics each day (or week).

#### 6. **Annual Sustainability Award**

The purpose of this initiative is to market the sustainability efforts on campus. Greg and Kristi will coordinate, in conjunction with the Environmental Department’s student award program, and work with Student Engagement to make this an annual Student Life Award. There could be an annual award for a staff/faculty member as well.

#### 7. **Other Business**

- Kristi noted that Professor Sue Mooney has plans to reinvigorate the nature trails on campus with her class this year.
- Kristi discussed new efforts to create a Center for Sustainability on campus. The Environmental Department hopes to create an Environmental Engineering program as well as a Sustainable MBA program. With this expansion, the moment seems right for creating the Center, and Dean Fr. Kevin Spicer and Provost DeBrenna Agbényiga support the idea. Provost Agbényiga has asked Kristi to develop a white paper. If approved, the stakeholders would work together in order to tie together applicable academic programming, The Farm, sustainability efforts, natural spaces on campus, and Catholic identity.
- With input from Professors Sue Mooney and Maura Tyrrell, Lori has compiled a list of alumni with ties to sustainability and conservation. The purpose is to get more people involved in the President’s Advisory Council, for speaking engagements, and to serve as advisors.
- Greg noted that student volunteers are needed to assemble the Freshman Green Kits during the first week of August. Brittany suggested that the LIGHT community engagement students help with this.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

**Next Meeting: August 30**

Submitted by Deb Norton  
Administrative Assistant



### **Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Tuesday, August 30, 2022

8:30 a.m.

via Zoom

### **MINUTES**

Attendees: Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, Kim Cordeiro, Lee Damore, John Duggan, Jessa Gagne, Katie Lloyd, Bob MacEachern, Laurie Mooney, Fr. Tim Mouton, Deb Norton, Paul Ricci, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Greg Wolfe

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

#### **1. Welcome to New Members**

New members Lee Damore (Development) and Katie Lloyd (Res. Life) were introduced.

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

The July 12 meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

#### **3. Strategic Planning**

Craig discussed the “Post-it Notes” exercise that the ESC did two years ago to help us form our subcommittees and create goals. The communications/marketing subcommittee has a lot of work to do to raise awareness on campus. Waste Reduction has worked on the Green2Go/Reuzzi initiatives, textile recycling, composting, and monitoring and tracking Stonehill’s trash and recycling. Real Food has worked hard to calculate “real food” offerings. Strategic Planning has been working to include sustainability in the academic curriculum and to reduce energy usage on campus.

Craig asked what our focus should be this year. Reuzzi is a great initiative to kick off the new year. Greg suggested that all ESC members create or support an initiative within their department or division, reporting back to the ESC at our September meeting. Cheryl added that we need to continue to infiltrate our community, and eventually become part of the College’s Five-Year Strategic Plan. The Sustainability website should help with these efforts, both on-campus and beyond.

There was discussion on helping to identify potential Trustee candidates who are environmentally focused, to help raise the level of awareness in our community. John will draft an email to Tom Flynn and Fr. Kevin Spicer (Chair of the Board of Fellows) requesting to present on *sustainability at Stonehill* at an upcoming Board of Fellows meeting.

#### **4. Subcommittee Participation**

Cheryl asked that the new ESC members choose a subcommittee.

##### Strategic Planning

In the past, Kristi has been our liaison for the GenEd Task Force, working to include sustainability in the academic curriculum. We need to stay focused on any GenEd revisions so that sustainability is included.

It was noted that Professor Mark Agana, Environmental Studies, will be taking Kristi’s place on the ESC.

##### Communication/Marketing

Greg and Deb will check in with Colin about the status of the website.

This group will continue to update the community on our sustainability initiatives.

### Waste Reduction

Bob would like to look at the weight of waste per student over the last five years for a true measure of our reduction efforts.

Unfortunately, the abundance of Amazon package waste can't be controlled. Greg will work with Dunkin' to see if they can eliminate bags and receipts that often end up as litter across campus.

Dave Farnworth met with the Residence Assistants this summer to discuss waste and recycling efforts.

John suggested that an ESC member present on *sustainability at Stonehill* to his three Business 101 classes this fall – approximately 45% of the freshman class. Craig will put together a presentation. It was also suggested that a presentation be given to Advancement.

### Real Food

The Food Truth group is changing how they measure our food offerings, and they need more student volunteers. Laurie is supporting Food Truth, which is working to become a club with a budget.

Sodexo's Mass Impact program seeks to get more *real food* to colleges. They meet with vendors regularly to work on the process as well as packaging.

### Reuzzi

Reuzzi is off to a good start this year, with six student ambassadors paid through the Green fund. As of last night, there are 101 users and 162 used containers. Containers are being returned to the Dining Commons, The Hill, Shields Science Center, Sports Complex, and MacPháidín Library. It was suggested that reusable containers be available at the Holy Cross Center. Greg will speak with Kathleen about this idea.

A student-created Reuzzi how-to video will be shown to all First Year Experience students, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oq874BkijQo>. The communication subcommittee will work to get this video out to the rest of the Stonehill community.

## 5. **Sustainability Website Update**

- Reuzzi – Cheryl provided the how-to video to Colin.
- Climate Change & Energy – Jessa provided up-to-date data on Stonehill's energy intensity, water usage, greenhouse gas emissions and recycling rate.
- Food Systems & Permaculture – Laurie provided a write-up on The Farm's practices and goals.
- Buildings & Infrastructure – Craig provided information on the energy efficiency projects within various buildings on campus.

Further website information will be provided on:

- Academics/Research
- Student Activity/Campus Living
- Waste & Recycling

## 6. **Other Business**

- It was suggested that if you cannot attend an ESC meeting, please arrange to have someone attend in your absence.
- Cheryl asked that all printers have black & white as their default setting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

**Next Meeting: September 27**



# STONEHILL COLLEGE

## **Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

8:30 a.m.

via Zoom

## **MINUTES**

Attendees: Mark Agana, Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, Kim Cordeiro, Liam Dacko, Lee Damore, John Duggan, Jessa Gagne, Avery Holzworth, Katie Lloyd, Brittany Lorgeree, Fr. Tim Mouton, Deb Norton, Paul Ricci, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Colin Spencer

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

### **1. Welcome**

New attendees introduced themselves: Liam Dacko (Communications Manager, Media Relations), Avery Holzworth '25 (Class Representative), and Katie Lloyd (RD for Corr and Villa Theresa).

### **2. Meeting Minutes**

The August 30 meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

### **3. Successful Messaging**

Liam provided a presentation on best practices for social media management & planning, which will be helpful for promoting ESC initiatives.

The presentation covered the following topics:

- Picking the Platforms that are Right for your Brand
- Planning Your Content
- Developing Social Media Copy
- Posting Content
- Taking Inventory of Social Media Channels

It was suggested that Canva or Photoshop be used for creating content. Hootsuite and Zoho Social are social media platform management products, and Bitly is used for URL shortening.

Liam stated that his office does not control Stonehill's social media posts but is available for assistance.

Here is a link to Liam's presentation to the ESC:

<https://stonehill.zoom.us/rec/share/BJBv0gRhTKvemsgsivHjLseyW7sbBXvZ45hOYUf-zCAHZYAikqYljFKkLQWXlyz.5gZStG-stcf0AwsP> Passcode: ^^em?c07

#### 4. **Subcommittee Updates**

##### Strategic Planning

Craig shared his *Sustainability at Stonehill* presentation, which was developed to provide an overview to Professor Duggan's Business 101 classes as well as to the Advancement Division and any other groups on campus.

The presentation, which was tailored to the Business class, highlights the College's accomplishments:

- Hiring an Energy Manager - Jessa Gagne
- Solar installations
- Water fixture upgrades
- Oil to natural gas boiler conversions
- LED lighting conversions
- Waste and recycling progress
- The Farm
- Our green ratings through the annual Princeton Review survey and AASHE STARS
- An explanation of the *Triple Bottom Line* sustainability framework which measures a business's success in profit, people, and the planet
- ESG (Environmental/Social/Governance) - a set of standards for a company's behavior used by socially conscious investors
- Information on the ESC and how to join us.

Feedback was provided. It was noted that the presentation can be tailored to a specific class or group.

##### Communication/Marketing

Colin noted that work continues on the Sustainability website.

#### 5. **21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge**

Brittany polled the group for interest in participating in the Challenge this fall. It was determined that November would be the best time. Katie, Lee, Kim, Cheryl, and Colin all expressed interest, and Brittany will connect with them for further planning.

#### 6. **Upcoming Events**

Kim noted that in celebration of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Blessing of the Pets will be held on October 2 at 2:00 p.m. outside of Alumni Hall.

#### 7. **Recap/Action Items**

- Craig will present to BUS 101 and the Advancement Division.
- Bridget will coordinate the 21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge for November.
- A link to Liam's Social Media presentation will be distributed with the minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

**Next Meeting: October 25**



# STONEHILL COLLEGE

## **Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Tuesday, October 25, 2022

8:30 a.m.

via Zoom

### **MINUTES**

Attendees: Mark Agana, Gianna Bertelli '25, Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, Lee Damore, John Duggan, Jessa Gagne, Avery Holzworth '25, Brittany Lorgeree, Bob MacEachern, Devin Mahon '26, Joshua Moniz '26, Laurie Mooney, Fr. Tim Mouton, Deb Norton, Paul Ricci, Meghan Sambrook '25, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Colin Spencer

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

#### **1. Welcome**

New attendees introduced themselves: Meghan Sambrook '25 (Environmental Science, Political Science) and Joshua Moniz '26 (Computer Science, RHA Advocacy Committee)

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

The September 27 meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

#### **3. 2022 Mass Save Climate Leaders Award**

On October 5<sup>th</sup> (Energy Efficiency Day), The Sponsors of Mass Save® announced Stonehill College as an inaugural recipient of their 2022 Mass Save Climate Leaders Award. In recognition of our efforts to increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Massachusetts, Stonehill is one of 19 organizations to be “recognized for outstanding efforts to creating a greener future”. Our major upgrades to lighting, HVAC, and energy management systems were specifically recognized.

See Stonehill College’s announcement [here](#).

See The Sponsors of Mass Save® announcement [here](#).

#### **4. Updates**

##### **Strategic Planning**

Craig discussed the upcoming Moody’s credit rating review, scheduled for November 3. This year Moody’s will include ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) factors as part of their review, thus, our discussions will include the Princeton Review and AASHE STARS, among other topics.

Craig presented *Sustainability at Stonehill* to the Advancement division, who found it to be very informative. He has also presented to three of the six *Business 101* classes, with the remaining three scheduled shortly, reaching approximately 300 freshmen. Craig noted that very few of these students are using the Reuzzi app and have stated that they did not receive a Green Kit. Most likely they received the kit but did not recognize the term “Green Kit” when asked.

Cheryl noted the [Recyclopeda](#) tool to help determine if something is recyclable.

## Communication/Marketing

Work continues on the Sustainability website. No further update.

## Waste Reduction

Bob plans to review the trash and recycling numbers for the past several years. Waste Management over-reported our weight pickups, using ten tons as the minimum even when less than ten tons was picked up. Bob also noted their custodial staffing shortage. He also stated that we are purchasing more paper towels now than ever before.

## Reuzzi

Cheryl and Greg presented to Laurie Mooney's *Principles of Environmental Science* class (non-freshmen), showing the two-minute Reuzzi video. Only three of the 20 students are using the app; hopefully it is just a matter of getting the word out. A graphic design student is working on social media posts for Reuzzi. There are currently seven Reuzzi student ambassadors (who receive a stipend). If anyone is interested, please reach out as one more ambassador is needed.

The Reuzzi container drop box locations are working well. One will be added at Meehan Hall where there is heavy foot traffic.

There was discussion on eliminating all single-use containers in the Commons next semester as well as a discussion on adding the Reuzzi program at The Hill. It was noted that the nonstick lining in disposable to-go containers contains the forever chemicals associated with PFAS.

## The Farm

There is some progress in defining the compost area. The Farm is continuing to receive pre-consumer waste from the Commons.

During Homecoming Weekend (October 29), The Farm will have a table for honey sales as well as a pumpkin carving activity. This will be an opportunity to discuss Reuzzi and Stonehill's sustainability efforts with students.

## Food Truth (Update provided via email by Gina Herosian)

A meeting was held on October 20:

1. We will have two more meetings the rest of this semester (November 2<sup>nd</sup> and November 30<sup>th</sup>).
2. Our hopes for November 2<sup>nd</sup> are to meet in the Farmhouse for a fall themed event with possibly soup and cider. We may show a documentary and/or have a food-related discussion. We are still working out the details.
3. Our hopes for November 30<sup>th</sup> are to have an end of semester celebration with funding help from the Fun Fund. We are also trying to do a craft/fun activity for students to take home with them.
4. We are actively looking for underclassmen to take on leadership positions to carry on the legacy of Food Truth when seniors leave in the Spring.
5. We plan on discussing the meeting dates for the spring semester over Winter break.

## 5. **Other Business**

Cheryl read Kristi Burkholder's update on the potential Center for Sustainability:

*... I wanted to provide you all with a quick update about the potential Center for Sustainability. As you may all remember, we first floated the idea this summer and the*



*feedback that you all gave allowed me to pull together a preliminary draft about what a Center could look like. As a reminder, the draft center had six key “pillars”:*

**1) Strong Academic Program Offerings**

*This section described the fact that we already offer two undergraduate majors (ENV science and ENV studies) and a minor. We are also being pegged to collaborate with other developing programs (ENV and engineering? ENV and business?).*

**2) Signature Experiences and Programs**

*This section proposes a few signature elements that could become part of a Center. For example, a signature field experience course (Eric LeFlore is dying to design!), or a lecture series to bring more ENV focused talks to campus.*

**3) The Farm at Stonehill**

*Self-explanatory! The Farm and its important work would be a critical partner for any Center.*

**4) Campus Commitment to Sustainability**

*All of the amazing work of the ESC! Also, the efforts of our student groups on campus: Food Truth, SEA, etc.*

**5) Natural Spaces on Campus**

*Nature trail, labeled trees, etc. We would love to consider an outdoor classroom as a part of the Center too!*

**6) Holy Cross Identity**

*Connections to our mission! As a Catholic Institution, we are being called to act to protect the environment and those that are being impacted by climate change. We think that our catholic identity would be central to the center too!*

*DeBrenna and Kevin have been supportive of this idea so far and have passed the draft White Paper on to Fr. John. We are awaiting his permission to move forward with a more formal draft of the idea. If we get that permission, we will certainly be coming to ESC to help contribute additional ideas and feedback. ESC will be a central partner in this work! In the meantime, any thoughts/comments/concerns would be most welcome...*

The ESC showed unanimous support for a Center for Sustainability and will respond with a letter of support.

Concern was expressed regarding funding for the Center as the College’s financial situation has not allowed for support of this initiative in the past.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.



# STONEHILL COLLEGE

## **Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Monday, January 30, 2023

8:30 a.m.

via Zoom

## **MINUTES**

Attendees: Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, John Duggan, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Jessa Gagne, Brittany Lorgeree, Bob MacEachern, Joshua Moniz '26, Laurie Mooney, Deb Norton, Paul Ricci, Rob Rodgers, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Mercy Song '23, Colin Spencer, Greg Wolfe

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

### **1. Welcome**

Mercy Song '23 introduced herself. She is a senior international business student. Welcome!

### **2. Meeting Minutes**

The October 25 meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

### **3. Princeton Review Green Rating / 2023 Guide to Green Colleges**

Craig provided an overview of the Princeton Review annual survey (Green Campus section). Participating Colleges are ranked between 60-99, and those with a score of 80 or above are included in the annual *Guide to Green Colleges*. (For details, see Craig's presentation slides at the end of these minutes.)

### **4. AASHE STARS**

Jessa discussed the AASHE STARS reporting process. STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System) is a transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their (environmental, social and economic) sustainability performance. We achieved a STARS silver rating in 2016, which was valid for three years. To bring our reporting up to date, we would need all relevant departments to review and update their sections thoughtfully and thoroughly. Then, we could potentially achieve a gold rating. Jessa will provide instructions for logging responses on the STARS website.

It was suggested that Craig present *Sustainability at Stonehill* to the academic division and senior leadership.

### **5. Green Fund Volunteers**

Rob Rodgers and Mercy Song volunteered to review Green Fund applications.

### **6. "The Letter: A Message for Our Earth"**

It was suggested that there be a campuswide screening of this documentary on the message of *Laudato Si'*, as an opportunity to continue to educate the College with our environmental messages. It could potentially be a part of this year's Teach In or an Earth Day event. Greg will reach out to Professor Eric LeFlore regarding the Teach In schedule, and Rob will contact Katie Currul-Dykeman, Director of the Martin Institute, for support.

## 7. **Updates**

### Strategic Planning

In an effort to update the ESC's five-year plan, Craig would like to use components from Kristi Burkholder's white paper that supports a Center for Sustainability. This is a comprehensive framework for sustainability at the College. Cheryl will reach out to Kristi for a version of the white paper that can be released to the ESC to assist us with updating our subcommittees goals.

### Communication/Marketing

The subcommittee met last week to discuss edits to the Sustainability website. The website update will include more graphics and the removal of outdated information. The website will be a more user-friendly version for perspective students. It was suggested that the site include a tab for academic programs with sustainability offerings.

Greg discussed the importance of communicating with our current students via social media platforms and other methods, i.e., internal-facing communications. He noted that many of our websites and social media sites have not been updated recently.

### Waste Reduction

Bob, Bruce, Cheryl, and Dave Farnworth recently participated in an informative call with Mass DEP on reducing and reusing. Bob shared the following websites, which are great tools for determining how/where to recycle household items:

<https://recyclesmartma.org/beyond-the-bin-search/>

<https://recyclesmartma.org>

It was suggested that information on recycling best practices be made available to students, possibly through a short video or QR code.

Greg noted that Res. Life should start planning for student move-out, with bins made available for recyclable items.

There was discussion on our recycling efforts during campus construction projects, including copper, furniture and relocating trees, in order to limit our environmental impact.

Joshua noted that O'Hara needs more trash bins, wherever there is a recycle bin.

### Reuzzi

Cheryl discussed Reuzzi data showing the number of users and the number of returns. In an effort to improve returns, daily text reminders are being sent to students showing how much money is owed for unreturned green containers. Student ambassadors will be providing additional Reuzzi education. Green Funds could be used to create a Reuzzi contest or receive a coupon for a free treat after using Reuzzi a certain number of times.

Greg stated that the 2022 fall semester began with 300 green Reuzzi containers and ended with approximately 250.

It was suggested that Gigi's utilize Reuzzi containers.

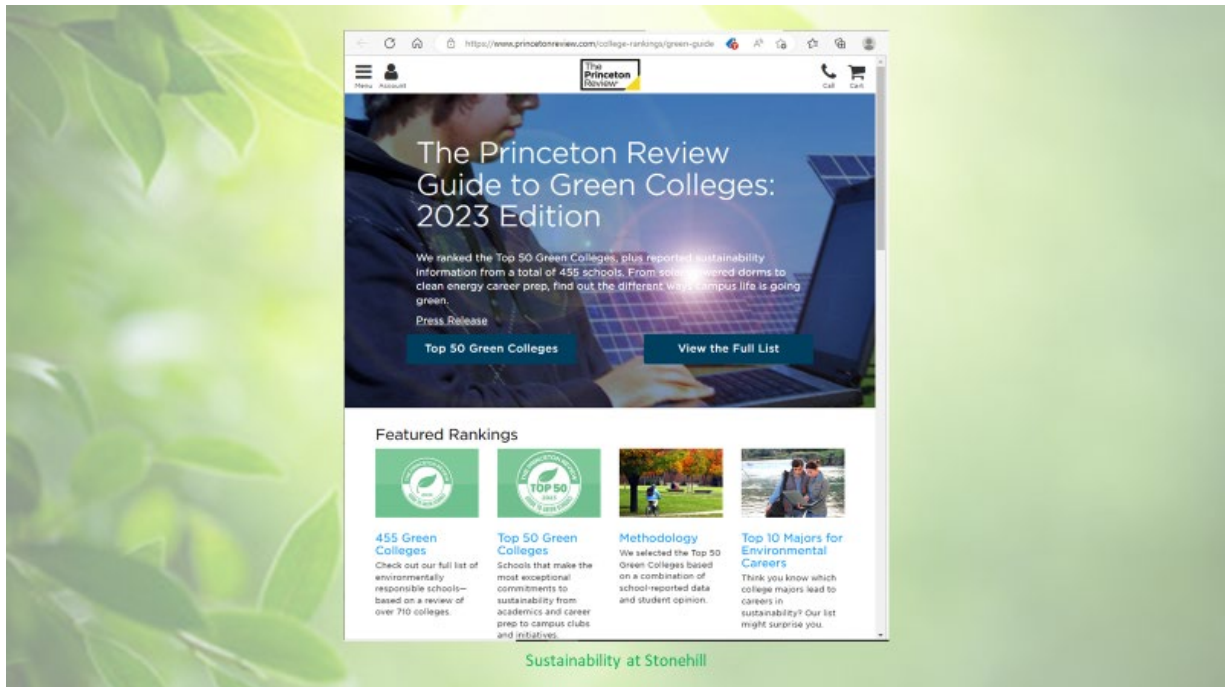
Cheryl, Greg, Kathleen, Brittany, and Laurie will be meeting to discuss ways to improve the Reuzzi process.

### The Farm

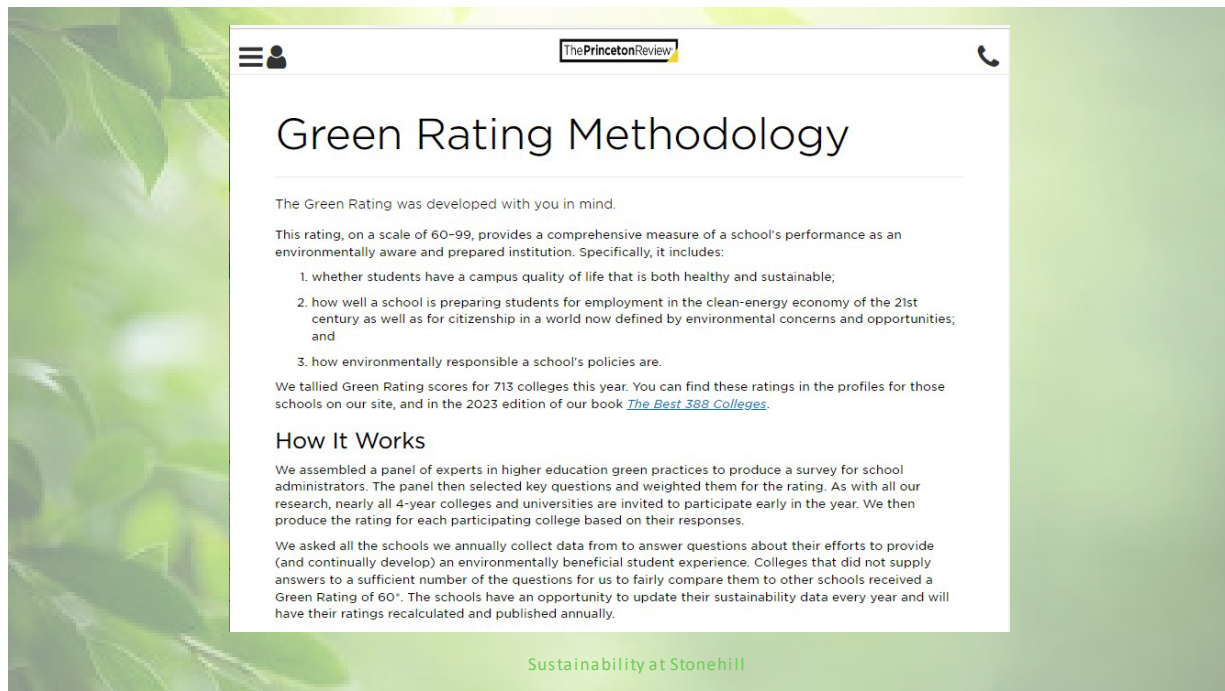
Laurie noted that she would like to help with planning for Earth Day and suggested an event offering transplants from The Farm.

There are plans to add more fruit and nut trees at The Farm this year. Current projects include creating a larger compost area and a fencing project.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.



Sustainability at Stonehill



Sustainability at Stonehill

## Areas Included in the Annual Princeton Review Survey

Computer Purchasing  
Integrated Pest Management  
Cleaning Products Purchasing  
Waste Diversion  
Active Student Organizations  
Building Operations and Maintenance  
Building Design and Construction  
Indoor Air Quality  
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory  
Clean and Renewable Energy  
Energy Metering  
Student and Employee Commuting

Prohibiting Idling  
Sustainability Coordination  
Sustainability Learning Outcomes  
Undergraduate Program in Sustainability  
Faculty Engaged in Sustainability Research  
Office Paper Purchasing  
Campus Fleet  
Mass Transit Programs  
Food and Beverage Purchasing  
Vegan Dining  
Career Center Guidance on Green Jobs

Sustainability at Stonehill

1	Princeton Review Green Ratings													
2	NEC Conference	College	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3		College of the Holy Cross	92	92				84					83	97
4		UMass-Amherst	85	99				96					97	97
5		Bentley University		92				97			98		93	96
6		Boston College		83				77					90	94
7		Bryant University	72	76				81					84	90
8		St. Michaels College		93				96			82		82	90
9	x	Stonehill College	73	84	89	88	82	84	87	88	84	84	75	89
10		Le Moyne College		69				74					85	88
11		Adelphi University		93				78					66	87
12	x	Central Connecticut State U.												86
13		Pace University		65				69			81		79	86
14		University of New Haven		60				60					79	85
15		Quinnipiac University		73				75					61	82
16		Wheaton College (Norton MA)												80
17	x	Merrimack College		65				67					63	64
18	x	Saint Francis U. (Loretto PA)												64
19		St. Anselm College		60				60					63	63
20		College of St. Rose		60				60					65	61
21		A/C		60				60					61	60
22		Assumption College		61				60					60	60
23		Bridgewater State University	61	61									60	60
24	x	Fairleigh Dickinson U. (Teaneck NJ)												60
25		Franklin Pierce University		74				60					60	60
26	x	Long Island U. - Brookville												60
27		Providence College	69	69				60					63	60
28	x	Sacred Heart U. (Fairfield CT)												60
29		Southern Connecticut University		85				87					60	60
30		Southern NH University		87									60	60
31	x	Wagner College (Staten Island NY)												60
32	x	Long Island U. - Brooklyn												
33	x	St. Francis College (Brooklyn NY)												

Sustainability at Stonehill

With more than 1,100 participants on six continents, AASHE's STARS program is the most widely recognized framework in the world for publicly reporting comprehensive information related to a college or university's sustainability performance. Participants report achievements in four overall areas: operations, academics, engagement, and planning administration. While STARS is a sustainability-focused system, it does not only assess environmental factors but also social and economic factors.



Sustainability at Stonehill



# STONEHILL COLLEGE

## **Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Monday, February 27, 2023

8:30 a.m.

via Zoom

## **MINUTES**

Attendees: Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Jessa Gagne, Joshua Moniz '26, Laurie Mooney, Deb Norton, Paul Ricci, Rob Rodgers, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Mercy Song '23, Colin Spencer, Greg Wolfe

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

### 1. **Welcome**

### 2. **Meeting Minutes**

The January 30 meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

### 3. **Updates**

#### **Reuzzi**

Cheryl shared highlights from the February 13<sup>th</sup> Reuzzi meeting attended by several students, Cheryl, Craig, Kathleen, and Greg.

How can Reuzzi Student Ambassadors (RSA's) help?

- "Going Green in March" campaign to further promote the Reuzzi program - for financial and environmental benefits
- Encourage people to sign up
- Eliminate single-use options; only green containers during the week of March 12<sup>th</sup> (later changed to starting March 20<sup>th</sup>)
- Introduce Reuzzi at The Hill and Gigi's during the March campaign with RSA's on hand to assist. Find space at Gigi's for green containers. (Compostable containers are usually lined with PFAS.)
- Circulate the Reuzzi video
- Cashiers must enforce Reuzzi/container pass
- Create signage: "Single-use containers are \$0.75 each and green containers are FREE" and "Save the Earth. Save your money"
- Climate Champ badges and raffles (gift cards) for Reuzzi users
- More RSA signups needed for the Campaign

Why aren't students using reusables?

- Students are not incentivized enough to use the app. How to motivate?
- Some consider single-use containers more convenient; Stonehill has a disposable culture
- There is a perception of smaller portion size with the green containers
- The Commons offers china plates for eating in; during warmer weather some students will eat outside with green containers
- Some say Wi-Fi connection isn't great in the Commons – may not be able to download the app; confirmed that Wi-Fi works



- For simplicity, can a Reuzzi “reusable container” button be embedded in the Everyday app, like Kiwibots?
- Can green container drop off boxes be added at larger residence halls?

We throw away three tons of plastic each week; spent \$94k on single-use disposables for the year.

Greg provided data for single-use container usage:

- 2018 fall semester 21,869 (during Green2Go program)
- 2021 fall semester 59,775 (height of COVID)
- 2022 fall semester 14,493 (using Reuzzi)

It was noted that first year students are given reusable cups to use at Dunkin’ for a discount, yet no one uses them there. Sodexo offers a \$0.10 discount at their venues.

### **Strategic Planning**

Craig noted the 16 key program areas of Stonehill’s 2012-2018 Sustainability Plan:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Academic Curriculum                          | 9. Procurement and Purchasing                      |
| 2. Campus Sustainability Culture                | 10. Renewable Energy/St. Francis Pledge            |
| 3. Communication                                | 11. Stewardship Council Roles and Responsibilities |
| 4. Dining/Food Services                         | 12. Sustainability Management and Reporting        |
| 5. Endowment Investment                         | 13. The Farm                                       |
| 6. Energy Conservation                          | 14. Transportation                                 |
| 7. Green Building                               | 15. Waste Minimization & Recycling                 |
| 8. Management – to achieve Sustainability Goals | 16. Water Conservation                             |

In 2019, the ESC completed an exercise to help determine areas of focus for our five-year plan:

1. Strategic Planning
2. Academic Curriculum
3. Communications/Marketing
4. Waste Minimization
5. Energy Reduction

Professor Kristi Burkholder’s white paper *Stonehill College Center for Sustainability* lays out a potential structure organized around six “central pillars”:

1. Strong Academic Program Offerings
2. Signature Experiences and Programming
3. The Farm at Stonehill
4. On Campus Commitment to Sustainability
5. Natural Spaces on Campus
6. Holy Cross Identity

There was discussion on meeting in-person and going through the Post-It Note exercise again, in order to update the ESC’s priorities and to set goals.

### **Waste Reduction**

The subcommittee is mainly focused on the campus’s trash and recycling efforts.

Craig presented *Sustainability at Stonehill* at a recent Finance Division meeting. That group discussed reducing excessive printing on campus. Craig/Greg will determine the biggest print users based on data.

Greg discussed the “Greening Our Move-Out” initiative for the year end move-out. Res. Life, Facilities, and student volunteers will assist with moving students’ donated items to a holding location for the future benefit of My Brother’s Keeper, the Lions Club, and Baystate Textiles. It was suggested that they seek Oliver Ames senior student volunteers to help pick up and sort the donated items.

### **Communication/Marketing**

Currently, the focus is on updating the Sustainability website. There was discussion on publishing a newsletter each semester to promote campus sustainability initiatives.

RSA Jen Bradford '25 will help to promote Stonehill's green initiatives while working in Marketing this summer.

### **The Farm**

Laurie noted that she will be seeding and planting more fruit and nut trees. There is discussion on having hens at The Farm – for their eggs and for consuming pre-consumer food waste.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.



### **Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Monday, March 27, 2023

8:30 a.m.

via Zoom

### **MINUTES**

Attendees: Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Katie Lloyd, Joshua Moniz '26, Laurie Mooney, Fr. Tim Mouton, Deb Norton, Paul Ricci, Rob Rodgers, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Greg Wolfe

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

1. **Welcome**

2. **Meeting Minutes**

The February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

3. **MassDEP Deconstruction Workgroup**

<https://www.mass.gov/lists/reduce-reuse-rr-working-group-deconstruction-workgroup-archive>

Bruce discussed the efforts of this subgroup of MassDEP's Reduce & Reuse Working Group that works to divert construction and demolition materials from the waste stream. The Deconstruction Workgroup connects stakeholders in order to maximize the recovery of reusable materials when dismantling structures. The materials, such as doors, windows, hardware, lumber, and appliances, are then reused or sold.

J.R. Vinagro, the contractor used to dismantle Stanger Hall and Old Student Union, took a substantial percentage of materials, including brick, steel, and concrete, off campus to be separated and reused.

4. **AASHE STARS**

Jessa is assisting Kristi and Cheryl with their STARS reporting. Cheryl encouraged everyone who is contributing information to STARS to proceed in doing so as this is an important initiative for us all. Jessa is happy to help if anyone needs assistance.

5. **Student Interns for The Farm and PLAN**

<https://www.postlandfill.org/>

Post-Landfill Action Network (PLAN) was founded by college students ten years ago to aid other college students in tackling unsustainable infrastructure on their campuses. They provide support through leadership trainings, resources, consulting, and zero waste programming so that students can lead waste stream solutions on their campuses.

There was discussion on Stonehill becoming a PLAN member and hiring a paid student intern to head up this initiative. Laurie noted that she will have two work-study students this summer who may be able to incorporate some PLAN concepts into their work. Additionally, Katie will discuss with RAs for potential student interest in the PLAN internship. If we partner with PLAN prior to summer, they may be able to offer guidance on our compost pile project.

PLAN membership and the internship will be on the ESC's April agenda, and potential funding will be discussed.

## 6. **Updates**

### **Strategic Planning**

The subcommittee will be meeting to discuss the ESC's focus for next year.

### **Communication/Marketing**

No update.

### **Waste Reduction**

Greg discussed the "Greening Our Move-Out" efforts that are underway. The plan is to have a collection point with three different colored containers for donations of food/canned goods, textiles, and toiletries, beginning after Easter. RA's will communicate plans to their residents.

An area will be needed to temporarily house items until they can be sorted and donated – potentially a classroom or HCC. Greg noted that high school student volunteers may assist with sorting and distribution.

### **Reuzzi**

Cheryl discussed "Stonehill Goes Green in March." Following spring break, no disposable containers were available in the Commons. Student responses have been mixed, and at times it has been difficult for Sodexo staff. Cashiers are doing great with checking container passes. This is still a pilot program, and modifications will continue to be made. Overall, the Reuzzi usage statistics are favorable.

The Reuzzi Ambassador shifts have gone fairly well. Per student feedback, more return locations are needed, particularly in res. halls. Also, some want Reuzzi at Gigi's and The Hill. One issue is that green containers are larger, so a salad looks like a smaller portion size than in a disposable container.

### **The Farm**

Laurie noted that they are moving forward with hens this season.

## 7. **Upcoming Events**

On April 4<sup>th</sup> from 4-5 pm, Greg will be participating in PLAN's Panel Discussion: Reusable To-Go Containers and Tracking Apps on Campus.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.



# STONEHILL COLLEGE

## **Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Monday, April 24, 2023

8:30 a.m.

via Zoom

## **MINUTES**

Attendees: Craig Binney, Bruce Boyer, Jessa Gagne, Joshua Moniz '26, Laurie Mooney, Deb Norton, Paul Ricci, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Greg Wolfe

The meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

### 1. **Welcome**

### 2. **Meeting Minutes**

The March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved as amended.

### 3. **AASHE STARS**

Jessa has received the requested data from Information Technology, Human Resources, The Farm, MacPháidín Library, and Institutional Research as we work toward our next STARS submission. She is working closely with Academics, which is a huge contributor for STARS, and hopes to receive the remaining requested information from other areas soon.

### 4. **Post-Landfill Action Network (PLAN)**

Cheryl has learned from other schools that while PLAN provides tools for students to conduct a campus waste audit, they do not necessarily support them through the entire process and would require additional campus support.

It was decided that we will join PLAN for one year, develop an internship (PLAN Coordinator), and hire the ideal student to lead the charge of establishing waste stream solutions at Stonehill. This year's membership fee can be paid through the Green Fund. The internship can be paid through work study funds. Cheryl, Laurie, and Greg will submit the PLAN application in May.

Laurie agreed to help develop the internship program. The PLAN Coordinator would be supported by various areas of the College: The Farm, Facilities, Res. Life, Dining Services, etc. This position will need to be posted soon in order to have someone in place for the fall. It was suggested that several students be hired to share responsibilities with the Coordinator. Ideally, the first semester would be devoted to research, followed by plan development, then implementation by year-end.

### 5. **Updates**

#### **Strategic Planning**

Craig discussed ten focus areas for the ESC going forward:

1. Lack of student involvement
  - It was suggested that the ESC have a table at this fall's student activities fair.
  - Although Zoom is convenient, in-person meetings make for better discussions.
  - Invite outside student groups, e.g., SEA.
2. PLAN internship
3. Have more specific goals (less broad)

4. Reduce campus printing
5. AASHE STARS
6. Real Food
7. Departmental Goals
8. Composting
9. Communicate to the Stonehill community: Monthly emails, The Summit, and Alumni Magazine
10. End of year move-out

### **Communication/Marketing**

Send monthly community emails: "Did you know..."

### **Waste Reduction**

Bob remains focused on the reduction of solid waste and recycling. He is presently working with a very limited custodial staff.

### **Reuzzi**

Cheryl noted Greg's Reuzzi presentation at PLAN's panel discussion on Reusable To-Go Collection Programs, held on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

There was a strong push last month to eliminate single-use containers at the Dining Commons, creating a significant uptick in green container usage. This is now working well at the salad bar.

The team is working with Sodexo to try to implement Reuzzi for orders on the Everyday app.

Greg noted that single-use container usage fell from ~60,000 in the fall of 2021 to 14,900 in the fall of 2022.

A reminder will be sent to students soon, urging them to return their green containers prior to move-out in order to avoid charges.

Laurie added that we should be prepared to get students into good habits as soon as they arrive this fall, with no single-use containers. Per student feedback, Reuzzi should be available at Gigi's, and more return locations are needed – although we have eight locations throughout campus.

### **The Farm**

Laurie noted that the water has been turned on and they are beginning to transplant into the fields. The Farm now has baby chicks that will be out in their pasture in a few weeks. There is a lot of student involvement, and Farm Fridays volunteering has been successful so far.

## **6. Other Business**

- Greg discussed the Sustainable Skyhawk Move-Out efforts that are underway, where students are asked to donate reusable items that might otherwise be thrown out, as they pack up their belongings this spring. There will be collection bins at each res. hall specifically for textiles, unopened, non-perishable food items, and dining wares. Volunteers are needed for assembling and distributing boxes, and then for sorting and distributing the donations on May 22.
- Craig noted that Jessa recently met with Professor Mark Agana's and Professor Laurie Mooney's Environmental Science students to discuss our solar installations and energy conservation efforts.
- The ESC will continue to meet via Zoom throughout the summer for those who are able to attend. Beginning in September, ESC meetings may be held in-person.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 a.m.



# STONEHILL COLLEGE

## **Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Thursday, June 1, 2023

10:30 a.m.

via Zoom

## **MINUTES**

Attendees: Craig Binney, Katie Lloyd, Joshua Moniz '26, Deb Norton, Paul Ricci, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Colin Spencer

The meeting commenced at 10:30 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

### **1. Welcome**

### **2. Meeting Minutes**

The April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

### **3. Sustainable Skyhawk Move-Out Statistics**

Planning for this successful initiative began in February. Volunteers included students, faculty and staff from Res. Life, Facilities, and Purchasing.

- 2,750 pounds of textiles were picked up by Baystate Textiles.
- Approximately 300 pounds of clothing were donated to Brockton families in need.
- Hundreds of pounds of food were donated to the Easton Food Pantry.
- Dining wares and green containers were returned to Dining Services.

Katie will provide details and photos for Marketing to highlight this event in an upcoming newsletter.

For the Move-Out to continue to succeed, more volunteers will be needed and should become a student-driven event. This should also be a part of the PLAN intern's responsibilities in 2023-2024.

### **4. Internships**

There was general discussion on how best to compensate student-interns - stipend or 1-credit.

Cheryl suggested that we hire a student over the summer to assist Cheryl, Laurie, and Greg with setting up Stonehill's PLAN membership and intern position (Atlas Fellowship Coordinator). This work would allow us to launch the PLAN Atlas Zero Waste project in the fall. Josh agreed to assist and will be paid through the Green Fund, if approved. Beginning in the fall, the Fellowship Coordinator will be a paid position, coordinating all facets of our campus waste.

### **5. Alumni In Group**

There was discussion on having alums serve on the ESC for their unique input and perspective.

Suggestions included Chanel Mazzone '16 (former Advancement employee), Celia Dolan '19 (former Farm Coordinator), and Gina Herosian '23, all former ESC members. It was noted that current students are even more valuable to the ESC.

6. **Office Certifications**

Portland Community College has a Green Office program with a point-based rating system that promotes eco-friendly offices to reduce the college's environmental footprint. Participating offices complete action items using a Green Office Checklist. Certification is based on the total number of points earned.

It was suggested that we complete the checklists ourselves and possibly tie it into the Fellowship Coordinator's role.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.



**Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting**

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

10:30 a.m.

via Zoom

**MINUTES**

Attendees: Katie Lloyd, Cheryl Schnitzer (Chair), Lee Ann Damore, Paul Ricci, Greg Wolfe, Chanel Mazzone

'16, Jessa Gagne (Scribe), Bruce Boyer

The meeting commenced at 10:30 a.m. and was chaired by Prof. Cheryl Schnitzer.

1. **Welcome**

2. **Meeting Minutes**

The June 1st meeting minutes distributed. Any changes can be forwarded to Jessa.

3. **Planning for the 2023-2024 Academic Year / List of Annual Action Items**

Members are asked to review the list to prepare for the upcoming academic year.

4. **Green Kit Update**

Greg sent out an email to the ad hoc group that works on the Green Kits. The efforts to coordinate, procure and disseminate the Green Kits needs to be repeatable after Greg retires. RHA or FYE are better suited to manage the Green Kits and keep the items relevant.

There was discussion about the items, distribution, and effectiveness. The kit itself includes 4 items – reusable bag (Greg/Follet), purple hand towel (Jessa/Green Fund), sustainability information (Jessa), and Tide Pods (Greg). The primary cause of extra cycles, which can range from 1 to 3, is using too much detergent. The inclusion of Tide Pods is meant to show students how much laundry detergent is needed. Residents would benefit from more direct messaging about this. Coupons for additional items such as a reusable straw and cup have been used in the past; however, few have redeemed these coupons.

Future messaging could include correlating the items to the effects, set the tone that we/SC care about sustainability are providing you/students a sustainable life starter kit, and provide information on items they may already have and how to use them sustainably. Pairing the green kits, items, and messaging with FYE and hall events are effective.

Katie shared that a 7<sup>th</sup> position is being added to the res hall council that will be sustainability focused. The intent is for them to lead initiatives such as the sustainable moveout and hold programs where they give away reusable or other sustainable items.

5. **Reuzzi Update**

Purchasing and Sodexo are working together on this – both want a sustainable dining program.

Hayden McCain '25 wrote a case study about the Reuzzi program, which will be distributed to the group. The results include:

- 76% Reduction in single-use disposable containers
- 98% Return rate of Reuzzi reusable containers
- \$70k Saved per year since Reuzzi implementation

6. **PLAN Membership and Student Intern Update**

A student is needed to fill the role of PLAN Intern in order for Stonehill to become a member. This is a paid position during the school year, and a stipend (~\$100) could be paid to incentivize organizing over the summer. The position is comprehensive and includes reducing, reusing, recycling, trash, waste, Reuzzi, composting and moveout initiatives. If a member knows of any interested students, Cheryl and others are happy to meet with them to make sure they are fully aware of what the position entails.

7. **Other Business**

Moveout worked really well (thank you Greg!). Almost 3,000 pounds of textiles were collected (three times as much as last year). Fr. Tim washed and delivered clothing and other items to a group working with Haitian and Guatemalan community members. Three carloads of non-perishable food were also collected and donated. Many dining wares were returned to Sodexo. One lesson learned for next year is to notify everyone in the buildings, including custodial and facilities. Depending on future levels of participation, collection efforts during moveout can be expanded.

Lee is a member of the Staff Council. If anyone has something they'd like brought up, she is always looking for ideas.

Office Certifications – Self-evaluations in the form of checklists are available to start this process. There are other interesting ideas regarding office certifications and other topics on the [AASHE discussion boards](#).

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.