

Minutes
sustainability group
Wednesday, March 9, 2005 • 3:00 – 4:30 pm • Building 16, Room 211

Attendees:

Lynn Atkins, Facilities Management & Planning
Shelley Dutton, Bookstore
Mandy Haenelt, Student and Facilities Management & Planning
Jennifer Hayward, College Operations
Sam Hediger, Student, ASLCC and OSPIRG
Marie Matsen, College Operations
Joseph Newton, Science
Margaret Robertson, Advanced Technologies
Caitlin Scholl, OSPIRG
Mike Sims, Recycling & Surplus Property
Susan Tatar, Facilities Management & Planning
Stan Taylor, Social Science
Rick Venturi, Specialized Employment Services

Minutes:

1. Talloires Declaration

Hayward provided a brief explanation of the Declaration. Composed in 1990 at an international conference in Talloires, France, this is the first official statement made by university administrators of a commitment to environmental sustainability in higher education. It is a ten-point action plan for incorporating sustainability and environmental literacy in teaching, research, operations and outreach at colleges and universities. It has been signed by over 300 universities and colleges in over 40 countries.

Matsen asked that members review the document and consider whether the sustainability group would recommend that the college sign the declaration. She noted that the Facilities Council took a preliminary look at the document at their March 8 meeting and that they would be discussing the declaration at their April 12 meeting. Members expressed general support for the document. Tatar noted that we might want to consider revising it to make it more applicable to the college.

Taylor will request that consideration of the Declaration be included on the Learning Council agenda. Members will e-mail Hayward comments or suggestions regarding the Declaration prior to the April 12 Facilities Council Meeting.

2. Updates on Projects

a. Sustainable Paper Use: Sims reported that the Sustainable Paper Use subgroup recently met with Gary Anderson, Director of Printing and Graphics, regarding increasing double-sided copying on campus. Currently, 70% of copiers on campus have duplexing capability. Copiers cannot be set to duplex as the default. Sims has requested that Anderson provide him with information about the college's paper expenditures.

Sims also noted that the subgroup discussed the use of heavily dyed and fluorescent paper with Anderson because this paper uses more chemicals to dye, its manufacture is more toxic to the environment, and it is less valuable as a recycled commodity. Printing & Graphics is putting together a new paper pallet this summer and is open to eliminating heavily dyed and fluorescent paper at this time. Sims will contact Anderson towards the end of Spring Term to arrange to look at the pallet.

Matsen noted that one of our goals in the sustainable paper use project is to reduce environmental impact of paper use at Lane but just as important is the opportunity to raise awareness of these issues. Taylor said that the first step should be educating the campus community about sustainable paper use. Haenelt suggested a Green Bag Lunch on the topic and noted that it would be helpful if faculty could be encouraged to allow students to turn in double-sided assignments and assignments that use full pages.

Sims will meet with Information Technology to discuss how double-sided printing can be increased in labs and offices. He will also move forward with a promotional campaign regarding sustainable paper use.

b. Biodiesel: Hayward reviewed the status of the project. A group of stakeholders including Science and Diesel faculty, Science students, and the Director of Facilities Management & Planning met on February 14, 2005 to develop a project proposal.

Hayward outlined the following proposal.

Biodiesel Project Proposal

- Science students will make a processor that converts vegetable oil to biodiesel. The students developed a parts list with costs. The estimated cost to make the processor is \$1700.
- Facilities Management & Planning will determine a location (currently areas in Buildings 7 & 12 are being investigated).
- The Science students will make the processor during early spring term and will make biodiesel throughout spring term.
- The primary vegetable oil source will be the used grease from Foodservices.
- The biodiesel will be used in the Diesel Technologies instructional facility and in the boiler. Use of biodiesel in Facilities equipment will also be investigated.

The sustainability group approved the use of Foundation account funds to pay for the processor.

The group discussed how to sustain the project once the currently involved science students graduate this spring. Hayward noted that Chemistry instructor, John Thompson, would be continually recruiting students to work on the project. Additional ideas for sustaining the project included:

- use foundation funds for student internships;
- develop biodiesel processing into a class project (students may initially be able to obtain independent study or cooperative education credit);
- workstudy; and
- sell the product in order to pay for a classified staff person to make the biodiesel. *

*[Note: Hayward developed a cost analysis for the biodiesel project that was not distributed at the meeting. The analysis shows that it would be cheaper to support a part-time classified staff person making biodiesel than the college uses than purchasing regular diesel. The cost analysis is attached].

3. Conference

Members discussed the proposed Fall Conference on Sustainability. Hayward reported that the Bioneers Conference would be held at Lane in the CML October 14-16, 2005. The Bioneers conference promotes practical environmental solutions and innovative social strategies for restoring the earth and communities. One of the conference organizers recently contacted Hayward to discuss whether Lane would be interested in coordinating with Bioneers to develop the conference. Members agreed that the college

should look into coordinating with Bioneers on the Fall Conference. Members suggested the following workshop topics:

- paper use awareness;
- green building;
- landscaping (Haenelt suggested that Lead Groundskeeper, Frank Drengacz, may be interested in presenting.);
- e-waste; and
- recycling.

Hayward will contact the Bioneers Conference organizer to begin discussions about how Lane and Bioneers can work together on the Conference.

4. Earth Week

Hayward reported that a group of students affiliated with ASLCC and OSPIRG have met to begin planning Earth Week events. Hayward asked if any sustainability group members would be interested in working with ASLCC and OSPIRG to help plan the events. Haenelt, Hayward, Newton, and Sims will work on Earth Week events.

5. Other Business

a. Community Garden: Hediger explained that he is working on coordinating a Lane Community College community garden. Food grown in the garden could be used to establish an OSPIRG food pantry that would help needy people in the community. Robertson noted that there might be potential to develop courses around this project. Hayward expressed an interest in the garden being sited near the rainwater collection system and using the collected rainwater as its irrigation source.

Hediger will contact Lead Groundskeeper, Frank Drengacz, to discuss the project. Newton will discuss the idea with Science faculty to determine where there would be instructional support for the project.

Minutes prepared by: Jennifer Hayward

Date: 3/15/04

Attachments (1): Biodiesel Project Cost Analysis

Action Items

Laundry Environmental Audit

- Venturi to audit environmental practices in the Laundry to determine whether improved environmental practices could be implemented. The investigation will include: chemical use; water volumes; temperatures; and heat recovery (Ebbage noted that an Energy Management class could help the laundry investigate heat recovery strategies).
- Hayward to ask the Green Chemistry Club coordinator, John Thompson, whether the Club's students would be interested in researching Laundry chemical use as a project.

Coordination with Facilities Council

- Members to e-mail Hayward suggestions for additional statements that should be included in the Facilities Council policy document by Friday, February 11, 2005.
- Hayward to send an e-mail to the sustainability group asking people to let her know if they are interested in being on the Facilities Council's Long Range Transportation Planning Task Force.

"Green bag" lunches

- Hayward to determine whether architect, Galen Ohmart is available to do a presentation on Lane's proposed Model Sustainability Building as a green bag lunch.
- Hayward to ask Marie Matsen to ask Tracy Simms if the monthly sustainability green-bag lunch event could be a regular event listed on the Lane home page.

Foundation account

- Matsen to provide suggested talking points for group members to use when promoting the sustainability account.

Talloires Declaration

- Taylor to request that consideration of the Declaration is included on the Learning Council agenda.
- Members to e-mail Hayward comments or suggestions regarding the Declaration prior to the April 12 Facilities Council Meeting.

Sustainable Paper Use

- Sims to meet with Information Technology to discuss how double-sided printing can be increased in labs and offices.
- Sims to move forward with a promotional campaign regarding sustainable paper use.

Fall Conference

- Hayward to contact the Bioneers Conference organizer to begin discussions about how Lane and Bioneers can work together on the Conference.

Earth Week

- Haenelt, Hayward, Newton, and Sims to work with OSPIRG and ASLCC on Earth Week events.

Community Garden

- Hediger to contact Lead Groundskeeper, Frank Drengacz, to discuss the project.
- Newton to discuss the idea with Science faculty to determine where there would be instructional support for the project.