

# WSU Sustainability & the Environment Committee

## Meeting Minutes

**DATE, TIME, & LOCATION:** Friday, November 8, 2019, 10:00 a.m., Environmental Health and Safety Conference Room

**ATTENDEES:** Jeff Gossard, Ahnna McCoy, Amy Whiteman, Jeff Lannigan, Nigel Pickering, Julie Padowski, Allyson King, Gary Coyle, Sarah Larson, Emily Hogan, Amanda Stahl, Jonathan Stahl, Gabby Rodriguez, Dwight Hagihara, Karen Weathermon, Jason Sampson

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1. Call to Order - Jason Sampson

2. Introductions - Jason Sampson

Due to new SEC members Jason provided an overview of the SEC.

3. Green Fund changes - Jason Sampson

Patrick Robichaud, chair of the ASWSU Environmental Sustainability Alliance proposed changes to the green fund document. The document was sent out electronically for input on October 24. Based on electronic input and discussion at meeting the following changes were unanimously made:

- Green Fund projects will be voted on by a Green Fund Committee which consists of six students, three faculty from SEC, and three staff from SEC
- Green Fund will limit grants to attend a conference to \$1,000
- Green Fund will limit grants to host an event to \$1,000
- Green Fund will limit grants for internships at a total of \$10,000 per year.

4. Green Fund project status (greenhouse, bee's and tree's, solar, 3D, hydroponics - Jason Sampson

Jason provided a summary of the currently funded projects:

**Greenhouse** - The greenhouse construction is complete and student groups and the Eggert Family Organic Farm has started using the facility. EFOF created a form, hosted on the sustainability website, allowing students to ask for space in the greenhouse. ESA will be pushing out this opportunity to groups on campus.

**Bee's and Tree's** - KJ Fitzgerald is verifying plants on the bee pathway made it through the summer and where it is necessary additional plants will be added.

**Chinook Solar Panels** - The project plans have been approved, and was originally scheduled to be installed in July, but the panels were broken when they arrived and needed to be reordered. Once panels arrive installation will be scheduled.

3D Club – The advisor left the university and a majority of the club members graduated before project was completed. A new advisor, Arda Gozen, has been selected and new members have taken up the project and will complete it. Jason will meet with new members to discuss status and expectations.

Hydroponics – Paul Schumacher completed construction of system. Brad Jaeckel and Brian Spratt are operating system and providing basil to dining services. They are still working out production rate and operational maintenance. Housing has produced educational information which will be on their website and displayed at Southside Café.

#### 5. Green Fund proposal discussion – Jason Sampson

Patrick Robichaud submitted a Green Fund proposal. Due to his role on the committee he do not attend and discussion was led by Jason. Patrick requested \$1,000 to attend the Conference of the Parties (COP) 25 in Madrid Spain on December 9-13. COP25 is the largest climate conference in the world. Total cost to attend is approximately \$2,000 with the Honors College, Distinguished Scholarships, and Civil Engineering already contributing a total of \$1,000. Based on discussions, the Green Fund proposals was unanimously approved under the following conditions:

- Patrick will create a blog during the event and provide the URL to share with the WSU community
- Patrick will host an event showcasing his experience from the COP25

#### 6. AASHE conference overview - TBD

Due to sickness and tests the students who attended conference were unable to attend and will provide an overview at the next meeting.

#### 7. Zero Waste Football, November 23 – Jason Sampson

WSU received a \$5,000 grant from Unifi and PAC12 to help with the Zero Waste game. Aluminum cans will be recycled and sorted with the money from the sale going towards and educational outreach determined by the ESA, 3D print club, and Otter Conservancy. These groups will help plan and volunteer at the event. The remaining money from the grant not used will help support the outreach.

#### 8. Transportation Services update – Gabby Rodriguez

Gabby provided information about Transportation Services new program to increase pedestrian safety. The pilot program, Heads Up Cougs, encourages students to look up from their phones before using crosswalks. The program has been successful and will be expanded in the spring.

Zipcar is expanding on WSU campus based on the amount of usage.

#### 9. Open Discussion

Karen Weathermon

Looking for nominations for next year's Common Reading book.

Nigel Pickering

Looking for opportunities to install or retrofit green stormwater infrastructure.

Gary Coyle

Working with Coke to switch to a strawless lid in 2020

Sarah Larson

Ozzi reusable containers have had 2,500 returns in 2019. Dining Services is sending out their satisfaction survey which includes sustainability primarily around vegetable based options.

Jonathan Stahl

Exploring the possibility of expanding Cougar Bikes in a joint program with University of Idaho.

***NEXT MEETING: December 6, 2019  
10:00 – 11:30, Public Safety Conference Room***