

Notes for Sustainability Committee of November 7, 2008

Recorder: Jo Dickman

In Attendance: David Munoz, Tim Sweitzer, John Skok, Natalie Wagner, Jen Schneider, Rebecca Flintoff, Carrie Sonneborn, Chuck Baroch, John Spear, Gary Bowersock, Akira Rattenbury.

Meeting Minutes

I. The minutes for the meeting of October 3, 2008 have been put on hold until next meeting.

II. Announcements:

A. Kevin Duffy from ASCSM has established a Transportation committee of 10 people to address the need for alternate transit options and to consider other uses of the Intermodal transportation Fee beyond its current use for the RTD College Pass. Chris is working with the City of Golden on transportation issues.

B. A recycle Bin pilot program is being implemented by Facilities Management and EH&S. They have purchased and will install ten (10) outside stone recycle bins costing \$600.00 at Alderson Hall, Guggenheim, Weaver Towers and the Recreation Center. The pilot study is for single stream recycling. Grounds will pick up the outside bins as needed. There will also be blue containers on desks. The cost of the blue bins are approximately \$5.00 each. Custodians will pick up once a week to start with. We will need to see if once a week will be enough. They will try to pick up trash everyday and do recycle one day. EH&S will purchase both the outside and under the desk bins but are requesting the use of the Lockheed Martin grant to help pay for them. Akira suggested that we include ASCAM undergrad fund of \$2000.00 and the grad fund of \$3000.00 to help accomplish this. Tim stated that by the time we pay Wastemanagement of separate the recycle that there is no real benefit to us. EH&S will be moving to the Ford property and they will need a place to store their 30 yard dumpster. We also got 125 totes from 60 pounds to 100 lbs from Wastemanagement for the pilot study. EH&S will use the semi trailer as a storage site. We only pay for the transpiration costs, about \$90.00. The program will start in Weaver Towers. Q: Will there be a recycle bin in each room? The blue bins will be placed in the suites. Rebecca wants to know how big the bins are so Tim told her that she could check them out before we start to place them. Look at each building and see what the need is for bins. Q: What about signage for what can go in the containers and for educating the people to recycle. Q: There will be a labor charge to recycle, who will pay for this? A: The labor charge for recycling has been built into the pilot program. Q: What if the trash is contaminated? A: All trash has 15% - 20% contamination that is acceptable.

C. In January or early February Kevin Duffy plans a Bus and Bike Riders Appreciation Day celebration plus educational event to help get the people motivated to recycle on campus. Have Oredigger do a piece on this committee and what we are trying to accomplish. We would do one party before this event and follow up on Earth Day

D. We are trying to get Greg Mortenson, the author of “Three Cups Tea”, to come to campus next spring.

E. Linda Abriola from Tufts University will be on campus on November 13th, 2008 to speak on Water management. On November 14th, 2008 to speak on Model for Sustainability Education.

F. There is Safety Equipment monies for EH&S. EH&S will grant \$1,000.00 to \$10,000.00 for safety equipment. Submit a proposal to Dick Porter by the end of the day for \$10,000.00.

G. We only have two (2) applicants for the position of Campus Engineer, there is not much interest. Q: Would there be an opportunity for a graduating graduate student? A: No

Working Group Reports:

A. Poster Session – Delayed

B. Recycle Signage- Jen’s class is in the process of creating sign to educate, direct and motivate people about recycle. Suggested that we make “Cultural signs”. They can use some LAIS budget to pay for signs. Posting this week will be the 5R series around campus. They are looking for feed back to see if the signs work and which signs work the best. They will target the Freshmen coming on campus, starting with the signs but they feel that to be effective they need to do one on ones with these students. The timing is great because it goes along with the Pilot program. We will need to educate the people on single stream recycle letting them know what items can go in single stream bins. Items for Single stream bins need to be on the wall or on bin. They need to know that they can’t put everything in this bin. Earthworks in having a tour on 11/21/08 for anyone interested, Alpine Recycle will let you go out in the actual work area. On November 14th a tour of New Belgium Brewery’s sustainable operations is also being offered.

C. Ecopass – Rebecca, Jen and Chuck met with President Scoggins to talk about the Ecopass. The President has tentatively agreed to front us the money to sign up for Ecopass. They will be meeting with Mike Dougherty and an agent from RTD to discuss us signing up for Ecopass. RTD’s increase is going to be 19% for next year. We will need to run a survey and get fifty at least (50) comments for this program to make it work. Q: How long is the survey? A: About ten (10) questions. The more people who sign up the cheaper the cost will be. The cost of the pass would be approximately \$36.00 per month and ARAMark is not eligible because they do not work for the School of Mines.

D. Campus Audit - Students have not turned in their sustainability projects yet. Students are approaching departments for sustainability projects and doing research at this point. She only has feed back from the students at this time. The students could not get information on Sustainability investments, they could get general information, but the departments would not give them detailed information. It was suggested that we find out what other schools are doing. In three weeks, the reports will be in and she can present a better report.

1. EPICS in doing a water project on irrigation and lawns. Dave and Jerry Solt are working with the students on this project.
2. EPICS project to audit Storm water problems on campus.
3. Another group has formed a solid waster study. They call themselves "Team Dumpster Diver" and they check the trash bins to see what people are recycling. The first week of December, they will present their findings to EH&S. They are doing Academic building only to start with. Tim thinks we can work out something with the city.

4. Carrie Sonneborn would like to have a list of the projects EPICS as already been done.

5. Dave is teaching a "Life Cycle Assessment" class, one project is to compare the old wooden pencil to mechanical pencils.

E. Sustainability Coordinator – Only three campuses employ Sustainability Coordinators that are part or full time. In Golden's Sustainability committee meetings, they saw a need for a coordinator so they suggested it to the City Council. They created a job description and how much they would pay this position. She would be willing to come and speak to this committee. City Council only gave them \$15,000.00. They have a list of projects that \$15,000.00 will not come close to covering. Hired Energy consultant is seeing where they could save energy.

F. Student Sustainability Committee Activities –

1. Kevin Duffy formed a smaller working group to address the need for alternative transit options and what to do with the transportation fee if it's not used for the Ecopass.

2. Late January or early February have a Bus Rider Appreciation and educational day.

3. Student groups hosed a tour of NREL's Wind Technology Center on 10/24/08.

4. The Wiki is in progress, it currently has Fall 2006 transportation study in it.

5. Projects for EPICS I & II should be completed before the semester ends. Projects include an audit of lighting usage in the Student Center, plug load surveys or "dorm storm" power Assessments, composting, providing solar power for new digital marquee near Meyer Hall.

6. Proposals will be submitted to the National Wildlife Federation

by 11/04/08 to obtain feeder money for any projects above.

G. Chuck suggested that we create a joint project on alternative energies on campus. Talk to county to see if they would like to be party of it.

H. Don Hall from the University Naropa - is with the Transition Colorado movement in Boulder. (DAVE, I'M SORRY I CAN'T READ MY NOTES ON THIS GUY. Is this the one you wanted to bring to campus?)