Notes for Sustainability Committee of December 5, 2008

Recorder: Jo Dickman

In Attendance: Theresa Worsham from the City of Golden, David Munoz, Tim Sweitzer, John Skok, Natalie Wagner, Rebecca Flintoff, Carrie Sonneborn, Chuck Baroch, John Spear, Gary Bowersock, Akira Rattenbury, Masami Nakagawa, Michael Hudson, Jennifer Teerlink, Bob Siegrist, Niccolo Aieta, John Ortega

## **Meeting Minutes**

- I. Dave Munoz passed out the minutes for the meeting of November 7, 2008.
- II. Theresa Worsham, the Sustainability Coordinator from the city of Golden, came to speak to our group about Golden's setting of citywide Sustainability Goals for the next ten (10) years. Theresa has been with the city of Golden for about six (6) months. Golden sent out a survey to the community for suggestions on goals and after reading all of the suggestions, came up with 45 items for the sustainability committee; of those they narrowed it down to 14 items that they want to work on first. Their goals are to improve energy efficiency and reduce the environmental impact of new and existing buildings in Golden. To improve economic health of the community by increasing business opportunities focused on energy efficiency and renewable energy. Offering incentives to businesses to encourage them to improve their sustainability and profitability by developing offerings of sustainable products and services and to the citizens for joining the quest to save energy. Educate the community to take part in supporting cultural, economic, and environmental health for all citizens. Increase the community's energy efficiency and the renewable sources of energy. One of their goals is to reduce energy by 20% and water by 15%. They have placed a solar thermal panel to help with the energy consumption at the Recreation Center.

How did you convince the City Council that there was a need for a sustainability coordinator?

They first went out to the community to get ideas from the people on what areas needed to be improved and justify why these projects needed to be done. A job title and budget were created and presented to the City Council for approval. CSM students could make a push to help establish a sustainability coordinator for this campus. Some students suggested that they put out petitions to the student body. With a coordinator, we could go after grants to help detour the costs of projects we would like to complete.

Would it help if the City of Golden approached CSM about the importance of putting a sustainability coordinator in place at School of Mines? CSM needs to put a strategic plan together to be ready to present it to the Board. Maybe Golden, Jefferson County, and CSM could collaborate on large-scale projects such as composting, solar panels, wind and water turbines. Wade Yates from the county stated that they have space to talk about items such as solar panels, wind and water turbines; they will meet again in January of 2009. How do we find out about RFP's and proposals?

Theresa will pass this information on to Dave Munoz. That way we can look for outside sources of funding.

How did Golden get a baseline?

They started by gathering all of the pertinent information on gas, water, energy, wastewater and solid waste consumption and Theresa combined it into a summary so the committee could make informed decisions. They are doing sub-metering to determine how to save energy.

Are you using other cities as templates?

No, but there are many school templates out there that could be used. We lost our Engineer last year who watched our energy consumption and have not had a chance since then to assess our consumptions. Facilities Management is in the process of hiring a new Engineer before we do this assessment. Gary Bowersock is meeting with the Governors energy office; they offer assessments for universities and their company is pre-qualified by the Government. Even if we get the Greenprint Program assessment completed, how will it be paid for?

Gary will have a plan for baseline reduction of water and Fleet next Friday. We will hold off on the Energy audit until the new engineer has been hired. Will there be open sessions for students to talk with new engineer?

## III. Announcements:

- A. Epics has put a bike share project together to install bike racks around campus and Golden and to try and obtain bikes that students could use on campus instead of driving their cars everywhere. The students will put out a survey to see how many people would really be interested in a bike share program. Traffic on campus has been a problem, just last month we had a student killed on campus. In the Spring the city is going to install "pork chops" at 19<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Ave for better protection of the students crossing 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. Maybe we need to think about different street designs. In the past CSM wanted to close Illinois St. but many people use it as a thoroughfare across campus to gain access to 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. Gary Bowersock in looking into a software model to study intersections and traffic.
- B. It was brought up that there could be a possibility of using Golden's raw water line to water our fields; this would create a potential savings. Raw water costs less than processed water and the line runs down Illinois St.
- C. Dave Munoz was not able to get Greg Mortenson, the author of "Three Cups of Tea." His schedule was already booked for 2009. we will try to get him in 2010.
- D. Natalie Wagner and Dave Munoz worked on the request to receive EH&S safety money for some projects. They requested \$8875.00 for recycle containers for the pilot program. EH&S has already purchased the bin and would greatly appreciate repayment for those. Akira Rattenbury stated that we could use \$3000.00 from the Lockheed Martin grant. An ISSV will be processed to transfer money.
- E. Natalie Wagner has received the Arthur B Sacks Award for Excellence in Environmental Sustainability for Fall 2008. For anyone wishing to attend the reception, it will be held on Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM in Stratton Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> floor Communication Center. Congrats Natalie!

- F. There is going to be a parking garage on campus but the original site was not passed.
- G. Maybe the committee should try to get speakers to come to campus and speak on Sustainability Transport. Lester Brown is someone we should try to get to speak on campus.

## IV. Working group reports

- A. Poster Session No report today
- B. Water/Recycle Signage- Some posters have gone up around campus and they are waiting for the pilot program to start before they do more signage.
- C. Ecopass Human Resources sent out a survey to the campus with a deadline of 12/12/08. We will get results from them. If you do not use the Ecopass, you will not be charged for it. It can be a payroll deduction, pre-taxed. How much are you willing to pay for this program? The cost would depend on how many people sign up for the program.
- D. Sustainability Map No report today
- E. Campus Audit- The audit will be e-mailed to Akira Rattenbury to be put on Wiki
- F. Student Sustainability A report was given to Tim Sweitzer from the "Dumpster Divers." He has not had a chance to really go over the report yet but he did tell us that about 50% of trash were recyclable, 46% trash, 23% plastic, and 18% paper. This does not include compost. Some of the problems are lack of recycle centers and bins. The remaining bins have to come in before we can complete the program.

The next meeting of the Sustainability Committee will be January 9, 2008 in the GRL conference room.