

# MINUTES

## Sustainability Committee Meeting

June 16, 2016

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. EAD 291

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### Welcome & Minutes

- Sandy Bauman called the meeting to order.
  - Minutes from April's meeting were made available via email prior to the meeting. Sallie Spotanski motioned to accept the minutes as written, and Betsy Friauf seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted unanimously by all members present.
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### Announcements

- Electric Vehicle Charge Station: A car charging station was installed in Lot 2 the week of October 19. This charging station was donated to the school. The software was accepted by both legal departments in May. However, the station will be moved to the lot by the MET that is being redone. Therefore, the charge station will not be available for use until August. We are also looking into installing garage chargers. More details to come.
  - Interdisciplinary Research Building (IRB): Construction on the IRB is expected to start late this year. Currently the site is being cleared. The IRB will undergo Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification like the MET building. LEED is a green building certification that ensures conservation of resources, energy efficiency, and a healthier building.
  - Fort Worth Transit Authority (FWTA or The T) Updates: The T in partnership with the Denton County Transit Authority (DCTA) is starting an express bus pilot between the two cities starting in September. If you or anyone you know is interested, Sandy can give him/her more information. Also, employees are eligible for discounted monthly passes on all transit at 25% off. See Sandy for more information.
  - Wellness Fairs: Sustainability (including the UNTHSC Community Garden) participated in the Wellness Fairs in June hosted by the Office of Health Promotion. While attendance wasn't strong, we were able to send the Clean Air Action Day (CAAD) Pledge to 38 people and spoke with people about the community garden.
  - Dig Deep Conference: Tarrant Area Food Bank (TAFB) is hosting the Dig Deep Conference on campus on July 16<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 4pm, and we are helping out. The conference is for people interested in community gardens, urban farming, and/or home gardening. Registration link is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dig-deep-a-conference-for-growers-registration-24602726417>. If you enter promo code **gardeners16**, you'll save 50% off.
  - Clean Air Action Day (CAAD): We are advertising the CAAD Pledge now. CAAD is on the first Friday of each summer, and it's a day for North Texan's to do one thing to improve our air quality. We'll be giving out prizes on Friday to participants. The link can be found on the Daily News.
  - New Student Orientations: We redesigned the new student handout for sustainability and will have those available at all the new student orientations. If you'd like to volunteer for them, please let Sandy know.
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### Subcommittee Updates

- Community Garden: Betsy Friauf gave the garden update. Planting Day was on March 22, and 30 attendees came. The garden kicked off its donations for the year by making a 20lb donation that day, and has donated 170lbs so far this year. We have participated in many events this year and are always looking for volunteers. Currently all the plots are full but there is a waiting list if anyone wants to join as a gardener.
- Campus Outreach (LEAP Program): We have 8 labs participating and we will launch to program to all labs this fall. Labs will receive grants for participation. Bruce Budowle gave a suggestion during the meeting that will be considered as the labs complete the pilot program.
- Recycling: This committee has not met yet.

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- Bylaws Subcommittee meets only when needed.

## **Sustainability U Event**

- Overall the event was very successful! The survey results revealed that the attendees felt the sessions were interesting, worthwhile, and they like the giveaways.
  - We had 110 attendees, 92 votes in the upcycle gallery, 12 submissions in the gallery, 38 volunteers, 4 speakers.
  - Unfortunately the drop-out rate of pre-registrants was high (35%), so we'll think about how to improve that if we do this or an event like it again.
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## **Committee Business**

- Renewal: If you'd like to continue to serve on the committee for the 2016-2017 term, please either indicate that on the sign-in sheet or let Sandy know. You can transfer to the liaison program if you would still like to be involved but with less time commitment.
  - Co-chair and secretary positions: If you'd like to serve as a Co-chair or secretary for the next term, please let Sandy know.
  - Bylaws: The bylaws will be updated next meeting for the 2016-2017 term.
  - We opened up the floor for any comments/suggestions around campus, and Melissa Courad asked about the trees being cut down for the parking lot construction. Facilities made efforts to save trees, but some had to be taken down to make room for new parking spots. Sandy encouraged students to always put concerns/suggestions in the student satisfaction surveys. Student voices have big impacts!
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## **Housekeeping**

Meeting Adjourned at 1 pm. The next meeting will be on August 19<sup>th</sup> at noon (location TBD).