

## Sustainability Committee Meeting

February 26, 2019

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. RES 218

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### About the Committee & Committee Business

- Minutes: Minutes from the previous meeting were sent prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Betsy Friauf to approve the minutes, and Myles Quiben seconded the motion. The vote carried and the minutes were approved.
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### Announcements

- Freezer Replacements – We are replacing up to 4 ultra-low freezers on campus with more efficient units. Researchers can apply for a replacement through a form online. Check the Daily News for the link.
  - Week: Transit 101 – This is a lunchtime event where we teach people to ride public transit, and we are doing it as part of Wellness Week. It will be March 5 at noon. Details on the Wellness Week flyer.
  - Recycling Changes – We will be changing our co-mingle recycling soon. Reasons include high contamination rate, excessive plastic bags, China's change in what they accept (historically the US sends about 30% of our recycling there), emphasize a focus on reduction, etc. We will be changing signs, perhaps changing door colors/openings, etc. The committee brainstormed ideas to help the rollout of this change such as the following:
    - Focus on education such as the process of recycling and its issues, the costs of recycling, why reducing and reusing are what we should focus on, etc.
    - Perhaps have a recycling quiz/survey where participants can be entered to win a gift card.
    - Entertaining yet education video on recycling
    - Educate students at departmental orientations (we currently have a table at the orientation fairs for each school, but this would allow us to get in front
  - Water Station Volunteers – We need a few more volunteers to report water station counts at the end of each month. If you're interested, let Sandy know.
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### Subcommittee Updates

- Community Garden: We have several events planned for the spring including a Bed Prep Day this past weekend. Other events coming up include Planting Day on April 6, and a Lunch & Learn on April 11<sup>th</sup>. We are still planning on being featured both internally and externally in newsletters/magazines for our 5<sup>th</sup> year celebration.
  - Lab Efficiency Action Program (LEAP): We are requiring labs that get a freezer replacement to participate in the program and we currently have 2 labs that are undergoing re-certification.
  - RRR (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Subcommittee – This subcommittee is focusing on making lunches, break rooms, meetings, etc. more sustainable and eco-friendly. This work will continue next term when we can find a person to co-chair this group.
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### Earth Day BINGO

- The Earth Day Planning Committee has decided to do Earth Month BINGO (March 30-April 23) where participants complete 4-5 items to receive a free t-shirt. Events and activities will be all month long with giveaways at each event.
- Categories include
  - Events
  - On Campus
  - Go Further
  - Learn
  - Reduce-Reuse-Recycle

# MINUTES

- Proposed Budget: \$6000
  - Volunteers will be needed.
  - The committee voted to fund the Earth Month Bingo. Bruce Budowle motioned, Myles Quiben seconded and all approved.
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## **Comments & Suggestions**

- No comments or suggestions were made.
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## **Housekeeping**

Meeting Adjourned at 12:50 pm. The next meeting will be in on April 18<sup>th</sup> at noon.