

# MINUTES

## Sustainability Committee Meeting

February 14, 2014

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. EAD 524

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### Welcome & Minutes

- The meeting was called to order by Dr. Youcheng Liu at 12:05 p.m.
  - Introduction of new member Myriam Martinez-Banuelos , Outreach Librarian
  - Minutes from the previous meeting held on December 12, 2013 were voted upon. Sallie made a motion to accept the minutes and Brent Shell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
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### Announcements & Updates

- Water Stations - Sandy Bauman announced the stations had been placed in high profile areas. Water stations will go in renovations such as in the Library when the restrooms get renovated. Departments who wish to have a station in their area will be required to purchase their own as cost is approximately \$2,000. The committee will vote on additional stations if needed but it's really up to departments to purchase them now.
  - Recycled Greeting Cards: - We collected 27lbs of greeting cards between November to January. They were sent to the St. Jude Ranch for Children.
  - Monthly Updates: - "Mail Chimp", a newsletter format that sends updates by email, will now be used to send out monthly updates which will come in your inbox. Please share the information with your department/school by either forwarding the email or sharing the information in other ways. Newsletters with more details will be sent out every 2-3 months, and this goes out to about 500 people.
  - Ink Cartridge Recycling: The Recycling 2.0 bins which collect ink cartridges, cell phones and batteries are located in MET and Library 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Since the large ink cartridges are taking piling up, please send them interoffice mail to FMB 110. This will help with the pickup of them.
  - Boxed Lunches on Campus: Please notify facilities when you have boxed lunches so we can add extra bins in the room. You'll be given a sheet that tells you how to recycle the boxes. We need to know the number of people who will be attending and who the contact will be for the events (Example – Ground Rounds). Facilities will provide 8 recycle bins that hold about 25 lbs. as well as additional trash cans. Contact Sandy with questions.
  - UNTHSC Vanpools: Representatives from the Fort Worth's Transportation Authority will be on campus March 5<sup>th</sup> from 11:00-1:00 p.m. in MET lobby and also March 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in the Kiva Lobby (RES Building) to discuss the many advantages of vanpooling. Vanpools must consists of six (6) people and everyone would have a guaranteed ride home, a low monthly cost, preferred and free parking on campus, and the driver rides free and gets to use the van for personal hours. Please tell people who are interested to stop by the informational tables March 5-7<sup>th</sup> or contact the Office of Sustainability.
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### Subcommittee Updates

- Recycling: The mini recycle bins have new signs. If you see some missing, please let Sandy know. In addition there will be 27 big bins added around campus including the classrooms, and the Library. Recycling will begin in a few weeks at May Street.
- Think Tank: The Think Tank group has been meeting to prepare for a conversation with the president. Getting more leadership support will aid in making sustainability more a part of our institution. Initiatives need to encompass the three components sustainability: social, environmental and economic growth. They will aim to meet with him in March.
- Energy Conservation: Brent Shell shared on the Energy Conservation Subcommittee. He noted that whenever we save energy, part of the savings is reinvested in more projects. This is something the campus should know about.
- Community Garden: Betsy Friauf mentioned 40 volunteers would be helping on Build Day which was help on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. Richard Massey videotaped the event and also provided photos for social media. The garden consists of

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16 plots, tool shed and currently there are 6 individuals and/or groups on the waiting list. The garden will be in 3 phases; 1 yr., 2 yr. and 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Plots are only available for the campus community, but will hopefully open to the community in year two. We will add more plots in years 2 and 3. Plot fees are \$35.00 and 25% will be given to food banks and/or pantries. A steering committee will be formed to guide the garden.

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## Earth Day Funding Proposal

- A recap was given by Sandy Bauman regarding the 2013 Earth Day
  - ❖ 600 attendees (bags were given out)
  - ❖ 450 passport cards collected (indicated that they visited at least four booths)
  - ❖ 100 people donated old electronics collected = 5,000 lbs. = \$259
  - ❖ 25 vendors which had booths in MET-109 – 111
  - ❖ 14 photo contestants – 170 voted
  - ❖ 38 volunteers

## Earth Day this year will be on Thursday April 24<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the MET Building.

- What is the purpose of the event? To educate, motivate and inspire, expose the campus to new ideas (ex: zero-waste), and provide opportunities (such as e-waste recycling)
- This years event will consist of:
  - Booths (23 confirmed already)
  - Food (it will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor this year and will require participation before food can be taken)
  - Sign up for organ/tissue donation
  - Short video viewing
  - Upcycled Photo contest (currently accepting applications)
- Think Green Challenge – participants will get points for attending events or completing tasks.
  - It will run from March 22<sup>nd</sup> to April 24<sup>th</sup>
  - It kicks off with the Cowtown Great American Cleanup and ends on Earth Day
  - There will be two documentary screenings of “Forks over Knives”– April 3<sup>rd</sup> and April 15

Patricia Dossey made a motion to approve the request for a budget not to exceed \$7,000 for the Earth Day Event and the motion was seconded by Betsy Friauf. Motion carried unanimously.

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## New Business

- A request for the water stations to be cleaned was made. Sandy will speak to Jerry Emerson, Custodial Manager, about it.
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## Housekeeping

- Next meeting is April 4 at noon in EAD 524.

Meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully,  
Sallie Spotanski