

## Sustainability Committee Meeting

June 27, 2013

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. EAD 524

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### Welcome & Minutes

Dr. Youcheng Liu, Co-Chairman of the committee called the meeting to order. Minutes from the previous meeting on April 11, 2013 were made available electronically before this meeting. Dr. Liu suggested we change the wording to read that the water stations have been installed. The minutes were accepted unanimously with that change.

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### Announcements & Updates

- Hand Dryers: After speaking with the custodial manager, we have decided to track paper towel usage then decide the best locations for the hand dryers. Since the campus population is down in the summer, we will start tracking in the fall then decide where the dryers will go towards the end of the year. The Office of Sustainability will apply for HEAF funds in order to buy these rather than use the committee's funds.
  - Four Star Café: Sandy and Kim Williams compiled a list of eco-friendly to go alternatives for Four Star to consider. Troy is currently reviewing those options then a meeting will take place in July to discuss them. The goal is to be Styrofoam free by the end of the year.
  - Website Update: The Office of Sustainability website has migrated to the new format. We have added tabs on the right to help people navigate faster to the Sustainability Pledge, newsletter, etc. Towards the bottom is a news and events tab for people to keep up with what is going on. If you get questions on items such as the pledge, please refer them to [sustainability.unthsc.edu](http://sustainability.unthsc.edu).
  - New Student and Employee Orientation Guides: The Office of Sustainability spoke (and will speak) at new student orientation this year and hand out sustainability guides with information on recycling, public transportation, parking discount, etc. Additionally, a similar yet slightly different guide will now be handed out at new employee orientation. These guides will be made available on the website soon. If you have any suggestions, please email Sandy with the comments.
  - The 2<sup>nd</sup> Issue of the SustainableUNTHSC Newsletter was released: They are available on the website. If you know anyone who wants to be added to the list, please tell them to email [sustainability@unthsc.edu](mailto:sustainability@unthsc.edu). Almost 400 people are subscribers.
  - Water Station Volunteers: The Office of Sustainability keeps a record of the count on each of the water bottle stations. With the recent addition of stations, we are asking that volunteers report the count to Sandy at the end of each month. The volunteer sheet was filled during the meeting, so no additional volunteers are needed at this time. We will start advertising these numbers on the Facebook page, Daily News, etc.
  - Committee Survey: The Office of Sustainability will be sending all committee members a brief survey to provide feedback on the committee's first year. A link for the survey will be sent out in July.
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### Subcommittee Updates

- Community Garden: The subcommittee is in the beginning stages of planning the community garden. The spot designated for it is along 7<sup>th</sup> street by St. Emilion French Restaurant. The subcommittee is breaking up in to task forces to plan the garden, and Misty will email the 60 people who said they were interested in helping to plan it from the Earth Day Event. In addition, five students and staff toured the UTA Community Garden and gained valuable information that will help us plan it. If you would like to serve on the subcommittee please email Misty Smethers ([Misty.Smethers@unthsc.edu](mailto:Misty.Smethers@unthsc.edu)).
- Campus Outreach: The Campus Outreach Subcommittee has decided to concentrate on launching a new Sustainability Liaison Program where liaisons from different departments and schools will help facilitate information around campus. The liaisons will help make recycling items such as ink cartridges more convenient as well as provide information on various programs such as recycling, community garden, etc. The goal is to launch the program in the fall.

# MINUTES

- Recycling: Facilities is designing new signs for our trash/recycling receptacles. We hope to have them up by the summer. A new Recycling 2.0 container (ink cartridges, batteries, cell phones) will be placed in the library once the courtyard opens. This will make two containers on campus. Also, our May Street location does not currently have recycling, so we're evaluating options for providing recycling for them. The subcommittee will host a recycling seminar on July 25<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 to 12:45 in EAD 506. This will provide information on why, what, and where to recycle. Attendees will receive a free UNTHSC branded cutlery set.
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## Earth Day Recap

- Over 600 people attended; 450 people turned in passport cards indicating they had visited 4 or more booths
  - 100 people donated electronics (over 5,000 lbs.), and we received \$255
  - 14 submissions in the photo contest and 170 people voted
  - Thanks to everyone for volunteering at the event and for all the subcommittee's hard work!
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## Committee Business

- The term for the committee ends August 31<sup>st</sup>. Please consider whether or not you'd like to serve on the committee next term. By August 31<sup>st</sup>, every member will be asked if they want to continue to serve on the committee next term.
  - Dr. Liu will be chair next year, and Sandy Bauman will be a co-chair. There is one more position open for a co-chair. If you'd like to nominate yourself or someone else, please use the link to do so. Nominations must be made by July 1<sup>st</sup>. [Co-chair Nominations](#)
  - If you'd like to suggest amendments to the bylaws, the Bylaws Subcommittee will be accepting recommendations July 1<sup>st</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>. Please email [sandy.bauman@unthsc.edu](mailto:sandy.bauman@unthsc.edu) with your comments.
  - If you'd like to serve as secretary for the 2013-2014 term, please let Sandy know. This requires taking minutes for the committee meetings (six meetings total).
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## New Business

- Andi Spencer mentioned some comments from the library. First, she wanted to know if there was an alternative to the gas leaf blowers. The Office of Sustainability will check in to the issue within Facilities. Second, there is a need for people riding bikes to have shower access. The FAC policies changed and no longer allow shower access without a membership. Sandy will speak to the FAC about this issue.
  - The Library Courtyard's design and timeline was discussed. Although it's advertised as a green space, Dr. Barber asked if more planters could be incorporated in the design. Also, Patricia Dossey said that the courtyard should open in July.
  - Brent Shell offered for the new student guide be included in the goodie bag given to new students. Sandy will coordinate with him on the next orientations.
  - Water Stations: Betsy will post updates on the water station counts in the Daily News. Dr. Barber also suggested a possible future location be in the CBH 6<sup>th</sup> floor.
  - Waterless Urinals: Has Facilities considered waterless urinals? Sandy will check on it with the campus plumbers.
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## Housekeeping

Meeting Adjourned at 12:59 pm. The next meeting will be on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at noon (room TBD).