

## Sustainability & Environmental Management Committee

Meeting Minutes for 12/11/2019

Special welcome and meeting introduction from Howard Meek

Starting with a safety moment

Keep in mind when we do dangerous jobs even if they are what we do every day.

Recap of important tasks from last meeting

### **Working group updates and goal revisions**

#### **Marketing subcommittee**

Still waiting to hear back from Amy Smith about how Marcom can help.

Website was able to be updated

Appreciate ideas and recommendations from other subcommittees

#### **Energy**

Did not get a chance to meet and plan to in January to talk about how aggies can report instances of energy waste and ways to save it.

#### **Waste**

Also having difficulty meeting

Increasing diversion rates

- Pilot program- pick 6 unique, different buildings on campus that currently have compactors as well as recycling to monitor exact amounts recycled or going to landfills. Plan to have monthly meetings with a specific team for each building. Getting ideas on logistics for the specific buildings. (GSC, MSC, MCB, Reed Arena, Zachary, and Rec)
  - Buildings host unique events like the Rec since the MS 150 is ending this year in College Station.
- Expanding education marketing- Zachary (and other new buildings) needs to update their recycling labeling
  - Transportation services 3 exterior
  - MAC 13 new interior
  - New Res life 3 exterior
  - Bio 22 interior
  - Bush Library 2 interior
- Recycling-Outsourcing the collection of recycling bins will save the university money and be more efficient. The only part of the process that is changing is who is picking up the recycling.
- Placing official recycling bins in all offices/classrooms

**All groups are strongly encouraged to meet among themselves and look over changes and goals before the next SEMC meeting**

**Policy and Stream Clean Update-Jeff**

**Stream clean-Golf Course**

- 58 volunteers
- 37 trash bags
- Policy update
  - Modify how the president is presented in the document and then presented in the upcoming week(s)

**STARS**

- Waiting on the final step (review) from someone outside the office
- **Still gold and at 70/75 goal**

**First year to go down**

Community service is where there was a big decrease

- More a data tracking issue than true service hour decrease
- Student poll (short) put out to celebrate service hours
- Maroon link is not the best service to put data into-everyone is interested in getting more accurate data
- More noticeable changes in numbers at our university since it is monitored annually while other universities monitor it every 3 years

**Master Plan-Kelly**

- Reengaging the 4 different working groups (waste management, physical environment, institutional effectiveness, and social sustainability)
- Met with 2 in the fall on changes and updates
- Making sure goals stay active and necessary changes to it will be for the success of the working group(s)

**Aggie green fund update-Alyssa**

Major Grant Cycle

- 6 grants that could potentially be funded through application due 2/3
- 2 micro-grants projects currently active/funded
- \$17,000 remaining for other projects
  - Application open until 2/28 (micro)
- Student chair positions recruiting
  - Application open 2/10-2/24
  -

## **Trucks challenge and collection-Krisianna**

Halfway done

250 pounds

Last year's official challenge and summer numbers mean 1300 pounds of plastic film has been recycled since this began a year ago.

### **Grocery Give and Grab**

- Donating unopened, unexpired, nonperishable food from students to the food bank
- Get rid of the food students will not use over break/when return
- Students can pick through the food bins until it is take during the break to the food bank
- Help address campus food insecurity issues
- Potentially leaving permanent bins around campus
- Potential partnership with Target and Old Navy based on employee concern over plastic waste

## **Article on the bicycles**

KBTX article somewhat misleading and The Eagle more accurate with the information from transportation services.

Specify the only form of acceptable behavior and new expectations of using the bikes.

Starting in the spring semester one strike will be given then a fine starting at 25\$.

Leaving it in an ADA area/ramp is 25\$ and 75\$ for multiple offences.

This is a 2%er problem so a decrease in users is not a projected problem

Another way of dealing with the problem is restricting the geo-fence to Texas A&M Property only. It will be moved to locations that area near campus and have the proper parking for the bikes.

## **Meeting Adjourned**

Those who attended:

TEEX	Howard Meek
Agi-life Research	Brad Ubanczyk
TVMDL	Casey DuPont
Bike Share Program Coordinator	Byron Presridge
UES-Supervisor for Energy Improvement Program	Chris Dieckert
UES- Manager for Water & Environmental Services	Darryl Petersen
SSC	Babara Musgrove
Res Life	Carol Binzer
Mays Business	Len Bierman
Sustainability Office	Ben Kalscheur
EHS Staff	Jeff Truss
SASE	Chris Meyer
Guest	Kristianna Bewes
Guest-Office of Sustainability	Alyssa Halle-Schramm
Guest	Kelly Wellman