

College of San Mateo Sustainability Committee Meeting
MEETING MINUTES
Friday, December 4, 2015; 11:30-12:30 PM
Room 36-200

Members Present: Charlene Frontiera, Lin Bowie, Isabella Colombo, Vijiyalakshmi Raman, Kathy Diamond, Rani Fischer, Kurtis Casperson, Tabitha Conaway, Mohsen Janatpour

- I. Welcome new members and introduction of members
- II. Introduce our new learning groups:
 - We started the meeting with a round-robin of individual sustainability practices.
 - The research and innovation was postponed to next meeting.
- III. Committee Work 2015-2016: Paul
 - The Committee discussed the process and achievement of Sustainability as an IPC Committee.
 - The current 2015-2016 goals and plan was revised to meet the IPC Goals form.
- IV. Sub-Committees
 - New Earth Day core faculty members: Kathy Diamond, Catherine Ciesla, Mohsen Janatpour
 - Botany Club has allocated funds for a living wall. Paul and Michele obtained permission to install the living wall in time for Earth Day.
 - Michelle “Raven” Brown agreed to do three more infographics to match the style of the tiger infographic for Earth Day. These will be the base graphic icons for the 2016 Event, and we may use the art in other ways.

- Professional development: Paul attended the AASHE conference, and held a briefing meeting with Charlene and Isabella. He will update the Committee next semester.
 - One of the goals this year is to get students to these conferences.

- Outreach and Awareness- several projects are in progress.
 - Project Butt: was completed by Conservation Club. It was a success. We will follow-up with the education piece in Spring 2016.
 - We are moving forward on the Bee USA Campus idea that Paul brought back from ASHEE. Michele will present to Cabinet.
 - Paul has set up a group to launch a newsletter in January.
 - As part of the IPC, Sustainability has a web site. It is developed but not live quite yet.
 - A question was asked about the recycling containers. Apparently, the containers are separate in the buildings, but the janitors place all of it in one bin. The question is, what is happening after the recyclables/trash is collected? Follow-up with Michele.
 - Hillary update the Committee on the status of the District waste handler contracts. Composting is part of the new contracts, but they are still in the works.

- Climate Action: The CSM plan includes this as part of the Vision Statement.
 - Hillary updated the status of the Skyline Climate Action Plan. Skyline has not completed theirs yet, and we should wait until there is a plan ready for us to review.

- Social Justice-Paul met with representatives of DIAG and they will attend our meetings.
 - A joint Flex Day activity is planned for the January Flex Day.

- This will be followed by a major Sustainability and DIAG event in March. This might include the Cesar Chavez garden screening and a garden project?
- Paul obtained three books on Social Justice. Kurtis took one on loan to read over the break. The plan is to engage a conversation next Semester.
- Investing/Divesting/Reinvesting-SB/AB bill passed and was signed by the Governor. CalPers and CalSTRS has divested only from coal (not all fossil fuels)
 - The Committee will discuss energy and divesting/reinvesting as a project and then go forward with a recommendation.
 - Rani provided a background presentation on divesting. The presentation included a web site showing who has divested. Foothill College and Stanford University have divested, for example. There are some sources presented as well, on these sites: 350.org; and “Do the Math”
 - The Committee discussed this for the full allotted time. The group wants to give this full consideration, but have to present an argument to the Foundation and the Board of Trustees.
 - The group decided to educate our committee members on energy, the options, followed by a consideration of divestment so we can make comprehensive arguments going forward.
 - One member wanted to make sure we are not harming some good businesses in the context of this discussion.
 - Rani will bring a reinvestment presentation next meeting.

V. Review/Update the Plan-Initiatives for 2015-2016

- Lin has integrated the IPC Goals Form and the Sustainability Committee 2015-2016 document.
- Hillary reported that the District is in the process of planning to revise the Sustainability Plans for the District and Colleges.

VI. Next Meeting-TBD

- The meetings need to be held more often and not fitting well with the Division meetings any longer.
- Send out a Doodle Poll on meeting days.

VII. Good of the Order

- Kurtis brought up carpooling. The group discusses some ideas and experiences, particularly with Skyline. Their program has piloted but not gotten off the ground. We need to have a conversation and it is in our plan, but not prioritized this year. Ideas are a shuttle system, priority parking, and discounts.