

**Energy & Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**03/25/19 2:00 - 3:00pm | Burruss Hall Conference Room 130**

**Attendees:** Kayla Smith for Sherwood Wilson, Debbie Greer for M. Dwight Shelton, Jr., Ken Black for Liza Morris, Anthony M. Purcell for Frances Keene, Denny Cochrane, Scott Kerklo, Jeff Orzolek, Rob Lowe, Edward Lener, Sean McGinnis, Erin Hopkins (conference call), Allison Price for Judy Taylor, Alan Grant, Caed Cunningham, Angie De Soto

**Guests:** Kate Franczek, Nick Quint, Jody Booze-Daniels

**March Agenda Approved:** Motion to approve by Sean McGinnis, Scott Kerklo second

**February Meeting Minutes Approved:** Motion to approve by Rob Lowe, second Caed Cunningham

**Old Business**

**Green RFP Program Overview**

- Reviewed timeline for the 2018-2019 Green RFP Program
  - Feb 25 subcommittee presented proposals in recommended priority order to the Energy & Sustainability Committee (E&SC) for approval, at the time we had 28 proposals
  - Mar 6- E&SC submitted proposals in priority order to the Office of Budget & Financial Planning (OBFP)
  - Ten of the 28 proposals were to replace existing sink lights with LED lighting in ten residence halls. At the request of the Division of Student Affairs, the ten proposals were consolidated into a single proposal.
  - Mar 19- E&SC and Facilities Finances presented select proposals in priority order to the OBFP Budget Review Committee for approval and funding
  - Apr/May- Results to be announced by the Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer M. Dwight Shelton Jr., with implementation soon after.

Proposals in recommended priority order

1. Indoor LED Lights- Math EMPO
2. HVAC Upgrade- Math EMPO
3. Hallway LED Lights - Payne Hall
4. Outdoor LED Lights - Newman Library and University Bookstore Area
5. Outdoor LED Lights - Cassell Coliseum Parking Lot and Adjacent Sidewalks
6. Green Lab Resource Kit Initiative
7. Indoor LED Sink Lights - Over 1,700 rooms in ten Residence Halls
8. Stroubles Creek Watershed Restoration
9. Mixed Paper Recycling Bins (16) - Cowgill and Burchard Halls
10. Reusable To-Go Return Stations - Dining Services
11. Reusable To-Go Individual Containers - Dining Services
12. Rainwater Catchment System - Hahn Horticulture Garden
13. Water Bottle Refill Stations (2) - Kelly Hall
14. Hot Water Recirculation System - Ten Residence Halls
15. Electronic Waste Recycling Bins (2) - Locations TBD

- 16. Bat Boxes - Locations TBD
- 17. Battery Powered Blower- Hahn Horticulture Garden
- 18. Solar Power Charging Table - Bishop Favrao Hall (E&SC supported just 1 table)
- 19. Outdoor Dog Run - VMCVM

### **Green Lab Program**

- At the conclusion of our February meeting Sean McGinnis proposed the E&SC endorse this program in writing, but we did not have time to discuss details on how to proceed.
- At this meeting the Committee brainstormed ideas on how to proceed. What type of format should be used? Should we draft a resolution? Who is it sent to?
  - Kayla Smith stated resolutions are for “action” items.
  - She suggested contacting April Meyers in the Office of the Vice President for Policy and Governance for guidance.
- Ellen Garcia is a student and is currently leading this effort. Upon her graduation who will spearhead this? If there is a permanent person, where will this person be housed?
- Denny Cochrane suggested this could be housed in the Office of Energy Management
- Scott Kerklo suggested contacting the appropriate UVA person to learn how they do their program.
- Angie De Soto suggested that once Ellen graduates the university consider having a graduate assistantship created to increase capacity at the Office of Sustainability for this endeavor.
- Anthony Purcell noted we have a variety of labs on campus and we need to make sustainability consistent across the board
- Allison Price (representative for Judy Taylor) emphasizes how much need there is for centralized personnel to create this and to coordinate resource support.
- Denny Cochrane will take this on and get with Ruben Avagyan to talk about how

### **New Business**

#### **2019-2020 Office of Sustainability Student Intern Program Application**

- Applications for the internship are on the Office of Sustainability website Deadline extended to Friday March 29, 2019 at midnight
- Interviews will start in April
- Students notified by the end of April
- Goal: hire 20 students

#### **Earth Week 2019 Program**

- Earth Day is Monday April 22nd
- Earth Week 2019 will be held during the period April 22-27th
- The student group Environmental Coalition has the primary lead to develop the program with collaboration of 13 other student sustainability groups.
- The Office of Sustainability is providing additional support.
- Earth Week 2019 Program to have daily themes similar to previous years.
- Tree-Planting event to be held on Wednesday, April 24, and tentatively at The Grove.
- Next planning meeting March 27th.

### **Y-TOSS Program**

- Partnership with the YMCA at Virginia Tech and the university.
- Held March 10-15, 2019 during student move out. When students depart the residence hall they generate a huge amount of waste.
- Y-TOSS Program goal is to collect reusable items no longer needed by students in residence halls and to keep them out of the trash and sent to the local landfill.
- YMCA will make arrangements to bring eight storage PODS to campus for placement near the large blue trash dumpsters. Intent is to capture reusable items and place them in the PODs instead of having them deposited in the trash dumpsters.
- YMCA stores these items over the summer, and then sells back most of the reusable items in the Fall at a largely discounted price
- Last year 7.5 tons were recycled last year which goes directly to our recycle numbers
- Volunteers will be needed at the PODS to receive goods: : furniture, TV's, Electronics, Clothes, Microwaves, Refrigerators, Hutches, and more
- Pod locations: Oak Lane Community, Slusher Hall, Payne Hall, Vawter Hall, between Pritchard and Lee Halls, Dietrick Field, near AJ and Cochrane Halls and between Miles and Johnson Halls

### **Open Discussion**

- Bike to campus day is this Thursday 3/28 (Hosted by Alternative Transportation): free food, raffle, t-shirt give away from 9AM - 4PM
- Anthony Purcell said by this time next month the new Dining Sustainability: Blake Benson from Grand Rapids, Michigan, will joining us.
- Virginia Tech received Tree Campus Recertification from the National Arbor Day Foundation.

**Next Meeting:** 04/22/19 (Earth Day) Burruss Hall, Conference Room 130 at 2 PM and will be the last meeting of the year

**Motion to Adjourn:** Scott Kerklo, second by Sean McGinnis