

Minutes
Sustainability Steering Committee
January 14, 2011

Attendance: John Albano, Steven Beach, Donald Bowman, Jorge Coartney, Dennis Grady, Pamela Simpkins, Roy Saville, Julio Stephens, Debra Templeton, Mark Wagstaff.
Recorder: Sandra Steele

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm in Heth 044 by Chair Dennis Grady.

Minutes:

Minutes from the previous steering committee meeting (October 22, 2010) were approved as presented. Note: A quorum was not present at the November 23rd meeting. Highlights were recorded but no action was taken. Those notes are on file in the Graduate College.

Working Group Reports:

Information Technology – Chair, John Albano

John Albano reported that there are now 45 printer/multi-function copiers installed on campus with approximately 45 more to install. A project with Biz Hub is being set up to receive faxes electronically to save paper. There are 15 servers commissioned that are no longer being used. They will be decommissioned and are all believed to be in McConnell.

New Construction and Renovations – Chair, Roy Saville

Roy Saville reported that COBE, Madison and Jefferson buildings still look good for a LEED Silver rating. Renovations of Madison should be completed in the fall. The Science building completion is targeted for fall 2014.

Food Services – Pamela Simpkins

Pamela Simpkins reported that the Food Services contract has been modified to add vending machine coffee in Young Hall. That contract expires in 1 ½ years. The beverage contract RFP has not been issued and is still being revised. Pam has a meeting regarding this contract next Tuesday.

Measurement – Chair, Debra Templeton

Debra Templeton had no report. She will be provided a report as soon as information is collected. Debra asked about a student liaison to replace Gabrielle Silvers.

ACTION: Dr. Grady asked Julio Stephens to contact Joe Rudolph to see if he would be willing to be the student representative for the Sustainability Steering Committee.

Investments – Chair, Steve Beach

No report.

Energy/Water Conservation and Use – Chair, Jorge Coartney

Jorge Coartney reported that Heth, Young and Stuart Halls have received the EPA's Energy Star. The Armstrong Complex has a data center. EPA information was provided and the Armstrong Complex is expected to meet Energy Star criteria but that hasn't been done yet. Six to eight other buildings are expected to meet EPA criteria posted on the Energy Star website.

Public Awareness – Chair, Don Bowman

Don Bowman reported that he is continuing to report Energy Star information, as well as campus and community sustainability efforts.

Curriculum – Chair, Mark Wagstaff

Mark Wagstaff reported that the Environmental Sustainability certificate proposal was returned with a request for assessment measures. A portfolio was compiled and presented to the faculty committee. The certificate is now once again in hands of the curriculum committee.

Campus Conservation Nationals Results – Julio Stephens:

Julio Stephens reported that Don Bowman did a nice article on the Campus Conservation National Results. Radford University finished third place nationally in electricity reduction campus-wide. For Trinkle Hall there was a lot of student involvement that resulted in a remarkable savings of 32%. Radford University finished eighth place nationally in water reduction. A pizza party will be held and t-shirts/water bottles presented to the winners in these halls. Also, two Wii's are to be presented to the halls for use.

Greenhouse Gas Report – Julio Stephens:

Julio Stephens reported that the Greenhouse Gas Report is due tomorrow. A copy was presented to the Steering Committee. Discussion followed regarding Figures 6, 5, and 4. Dennis Grady commended Julio Stephens, Debra Templeton and others for working on the report. It was clear from the data that Radford University needs to continue to work to reduce electricity usage and commuting if we are to meet the target of net zero carbon emissions in 50 years.

Climate Action Plan – Julio Stephens, Jorge Coartney and Dennis Grady:

George Coartney reported that Mr. Alvarez is going to request \$40,000 from President Kyle for the Climate Action Plan.

Julio Stephens reported that several pieces of the Plan will be outsourced to a third party. Some of the work will involve campus awareness and involvement in plan development, defined goals, interim targets, and identification of greenhouse reduction strategies, mitigation, and validation of targets. Julio Stephens stated that from a work planning and curriculum stand point we know what we need and can develop those. Expenditure of these funds has to be completed within the current budget year before the end of May.

Other:

Annual Sustainability Steering Committee Report - The Radford University Sustainability Steering Committee, 2009-2010 Annual Report to the President is at the printers. Dr. Bill Kovarik worked on the report.

ACTION: Dennis Grady will get the report to Sustainability Steering Committee members and to the Board of Visitors.

Dennis Grady reported that the **Greenhouse Gas Report** was emailed to President Kyle.

Earth Day - Julio Stephens asked that any suggestions or ideas for Earth Day be presented to him to follow-up with Gabrielle Stephens' replacement.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 18th at 3:00 p.m. in Heth 044.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.