

Sustainability Committee meeting

Wednesday 24 February 2010, Sharples Room 4, 8:30 am

Attending: Eric Wagner, Carr Everbach, Nicole Lewis, David Burgy, Linda McDougall, Nadine Kolowrat, Camille Robertson Also attending: Yvonne Socolar, Erin Curtis, Jacob Socolar

Camille passed around this week's Green Advisor Digest.

Camille reported that the name of the Friends and Neighbors link on the website has been changed to Sustainable Living Tips. After Nadine edits her digital storytelling piece, it will be posted to our home page. Ralph relayed Mark's suggestion that we include more information about what community members can do to live more sustainably on campus on the Sustainable Living Tips page. Camille suggested posting the Green Advisor Digest to this page. Carr suggested that members of the committee contribute information in their field of expertise to clarify confusing issues or remind people of environmentally friendly practices that they may not have thought of. This information would be conglomerated, posted to the website, and sent out as a mass e-mail at the end of the semester.

Carr passed around Colin Purrington's recycling visual. Nicole suggested that another line be added to the stickers so that they could be cut in two indicating which receptacle something should be recycled in. Eric suggested filming the two steps of the recycling process that people are confused about or doubt: which items can be recycled, what EVS does with the recycling, where it goes after leaving campus. Linda asked that the labels be printed as stickers so they can be affixed to recycling cans and not mar walls or get lost. Nicole asked that the size and shape of the cans be examined before stickers are printed to consider how they will fit. Carr will investigate more and talk to Patti Shields before next week. Our current contract with the waste collector does not allow single stream recycling, but Jeff Jabco is hoping to arrange this with them for next year.

Carr reported on the documentary company that came to campus to interview faculty and students about environmental activism initiatives and tipping points at Swarthmore.

Eric reported that he has been in touch with Earthlust members and will meet with them next week to discuss towels for the Mullen Fitness Center. He is also working on coordinating a more reliable recycling program in the athletic complex so that there are more bins present, and home games and large scale events.

Yvonne reported that Verizon is willing to reduce the number of phone books that they deliver to Swarthmore. She has talked to the Post Office employees, and as far as she can gather no one requests phonebooks. Camille will put Yvonne directly in touch with Maurice and they will draft and send out an e-mail poll to administrative assistants and staff members asking how many phonebooks they would like. An explanation on how to find phone numbers online will be included in the e-mail and in our mass publication.

Nicole suggested that Earthlust look into whether or not pizza boxes can be composted since recycling does not accept them. If students are willing to investigate what

information is already available and e-mail Nicole she is willing to continue the project from that point. As long as the wax paper and leftover crusts come out, she thinks that the amount of grease would be nominal and would not contaminate the compost.

Carr requested that the student green groups put together a subcommittee to work with him beginning after spring break entering data from the carbon audit into a different formulism. He would like three students. It would be a light commitment lasting two or three weeks. Camille will find students to work on this project.

Jacob requested information on the status of the GreenBox subcommittee. Camille will work with Linda and Ralph to set up a time for this subcommittee to begin meeting. Nicole and other committee members expressed approval of interested students working with this subcommittee as well.

Camille reported that she has e-mailed with Jose-Luis Machado about his involvement in the Mertz field project (Revolving Fund Priority 1). He is busy until spring break, but Camille, Carr, and Nicole will meet with him in late March to talk about what kinds of projects and pedagogy he would like to work on.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 am. Respectfully submitted, Carr Everbach

Wednesday, March 3, 8:30-9:30 am Sharples Rm 4

<Spring Break>

Tuesday, March 16, 2:30-3:30 pm (open meeting) – Kohlberg 226

Friday, March 26, 12:30-1:30 pm, Lang Center

Wednesday, March 31, 8:30-9:30 am, Sharples Rm 4 (open meeting)

Tuesday, April 6, 2:30-3:30 pm – Kohlberg 226

Friday, April 9, 12:30-1:30 pm, Lang Center (open meeting)

Wednesday, April 14, 8:30-9:30 am, Sharples Rm 4

Tuesday, April 20, 2:30-3:30 pm (Everbach away; open meeting) – Kohlberg 226

Wednesday, April 28, 8:30-9:30 am, Sharples Rm 4

Tuesday, May 4, 2:30-3:30 pm (last meeting before Finals and Inauguration; open meeting) – Lang Center Keith Room