

Swarthmore College Sustainability Committee
Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, 12/16/15
9:30 p.m., Lang Center Keith Room

In attendance: Ralph Thayer – Co-Chair, Carr Everbach, Eric Wagner – Co-Chair, Sheila Magee, Ben Berger, Sibelan Forrester, Maurice Eldridge, Tao Wang.

Wagner, et al (discussion): SusCom should invite the following for visiting reports to the Committee:

- Betsy Bolton (course review, update on class proposal to put solar on LPAC)
- Paris Climate Conference attendees
- Aurora Winslade (ACUPCC info, carbon inventory, etc.)
- Christina Figueres? Will we be able to bring her to campus? If not, teleconference/interview?
- Pre-Feb. Board meeting - Greg Brown - report on how the Carbon Tax will be funded
- Stu Hain (Inn update - tell us how we in SusCom can help make it the most environmentally sustainable building; what is the management of the facility going to be and how will environmental concerns be addressed? The public will see the Inn and it is a big statement about our seriousness about the carbon footprint, sustainability. What features of the Inn can be managed for sustainability?)

Eldridge: review of the December meeting of the Social Responsibility Committee of the Board of Managers
Discussed the internal carbon tax proposal

- support for it in the committee, was sent forward to the Board. Board sent it back to the Administration to figure out how to fund it and execute it.
- Money will NOT come from the endowment; will it come from the annual fund, from the budget?

Everbach: bad news about the hiring of new CEP-authorized faculty position in Chemistry & Environmental Sciences. All three finalists we selected took jobs at other colleges.

Magee, et al (discussion): How do we react, what do we do to help get the word out about the international climate agreement?

- Hopeful, excitement about the start in the right direction
- Engage Aurora Winslade
- Facebook page?
- Summary articles in Phoenix, Gazette - SusCom student members?
- Cross-post this stuff to the Swarthmorean
- Eric Jensen's blog

Revisit SusCom Working Groups - will do first part of spring semester

Eldridge: Gifts are already trickling in to new Green Fund

- Let's get word out about this fund through our website, letting people know donations are already coming in

Tangential discussion: what will happen to the current Bookstore when the new bookstore in the Inn opens? In general, what happens to vacated spaces when new ones are opened?

Questions for Greg Brown re: Policy Planning:

- How will carbon tax be funded?
- Update on Inn/management
- What happens to vacated spaces?

Magee (discussion): what about the general idea of solar panels on campus roofs?

Everbach/Wang (discussion): the economics of the carbon tax

Meeting Adjourned