

University Sustainability Committee May, 2023

Members Present: Victor Cohen, Bill Guess, Todd Oulp, Scott Crow, David Turnipseed, Diane Nichols,

Amaya Douglas

Guest: Savannah Wallace

Welcome everybody

Victor: The minutes from the April 5 meeting do you have a copy of that?

I'll give you a few minutes to scan over it, and then I'd ask for a motion for acceptance.

Bill: Noted there needed to be correction to the minutes from April's Meeting. Instead of Plactic recycling it should have started cardboard recycling. Recycling was referenced in 2 parts. We were at eight tons last month and 280 lb. Of plastics per week. Bill also mentioned cardboard is not making any money.

Victor: Does the chair have a motion for acceptance with the corrections.

Second, all those in favor pose.

Work groups/ Sub-Committees

Marketing & Communications

Diane: I'm, after the last meeting, I talked to Kelly Rushing about what we could do on the website.

And everything that we talked about was doable, one thing we did do is add, just pull down to the bottom.

We have a link to the most recent Earth Day Event. She also stated that linking other opportunities on campus is also doable it's just a process of

getting all that information to me to get on the website, and trying to consolidate where everything is.

Victor/ Diane: Suggested getting all information sent to Diane via email, and then she can put it where it needs to go.
Diane

Victor stated the more information we get the more info we get could dictate how we can reorganize the site.

Diane suggested adding a section saying Sustainability around campus since they all will not always fall under the same category.

Victor: More notable on the student side, biology Student Association has probably been the most visual, but we know that engineering has a group, um, um, with the Green Jags merged into biology.

Academic and Innovation.

Dr. Carol Sawyer is not here today.

Steven/ Gulf Scholars: The big update, I guess, from last time is we did finish recruiting our first group of Gulf Scholars. Gulf Scholars has 12 scholars that are largely freshman and sophomore. When they show back up on campus in August, we're going to hopefully have some potential project ideas to float to them to see what they might want to get involved in. If there's anything from this group that would benefit from having a highly motivated undergrad engaged, we could come up with a couple

of project ideas and he can send that request directly to the group.

Steven mentioned that we had a social science methods workshop on campus last week, and one of the people here from Michigan State was really involved in their early Ashy Star certification. They spoke with them a little bit and exchanged some contacts.

They said they would be happy to host anything from a visit up there at Michigan State or a phone call, or whatever we might want to do with that gained momentum again.

Steven stated that he is in one of the like Sustainability across the curriculum, working groups for the summer and would love to go back this fall if I can work it into my schedule in Boston.

Bill asked about the rain gardens and all that activity.

Scott: Says it has all been sent up since we last met. Says they wrapped up budget numbers, and is relaying up to all the different offices that needed the standard approval.

I think the target date for those funds was that they had to be used by the end of September. Hopefully we hear something in the near future.

Planning and Administration.

No Updates

Victor: Biology Student Association. not here today.

Bill is working on getting some photos from them.

I think we did receive some photos, and passed it on.

Victor: Dr. Hwang couldn't make it today either. But she has an update to the survey that she is doing, the study she's doing through HTM, sustainability of the containers that's being used by food service entities.

She's got some data she's continued to compile as relates to that and she'll be back too.

Victor: I talked to Dr. Kent as well about the addition of a few additional folks to the committee. She'll be sending those letters. Dr. Kent will send it out as we approach the fall semester so we'll see some different faces, additional faces at this table. So that's a good thing and we need more help.

Next meeting will be in August. We'll send out a doodle poll so that everybody can weigh in on what's available to them.

I know that's a busy, busy time. The front part of it, you're trying to finish up your summer vacations and