Environmental Sustainability Committee

January 20, 2015
AB7 402
1:30 pm

Attendance:
Present: Sarah Davis, Rhonda Holtzclaw, Katie Leone, Vikki McConnell, Sim Komisar, Tom Mayo, Julie Yazici, Andrew Wilkinson, Guy Cicinelli, Ron Dalton
Absent: Ann Hartley, Uzair Iqbal, Gerry Segal, TC Yih
Guests: Patty Krupp (Colloquium), Ian Campbell (Chemistry)

Review of Minutes:
Sarah reviewed the 12/9/14 meeting minutes. Sim motioned to approve, Vikki seconded his motion, and all approved.

Campus Trails- Sarah Davis
• We received a complaint from a trail user that the paths were not clearly marked.
  ○ At present, FGCU does not have a formal trail management/stewardship policy, but the trails are a vital part of the FGCU learning experience. Both general education and upper level classes use the trails for class projects and to conduct research.
  ○ Trails are maintained by the University Colloquium and the Grounds department of the Physical Plant.
  ○ Green universal trail signs were put up by Colloquium on trees to mark the paths. Grounds must occasionally put in ancillary trails to remove exotic species. If a hiker mistakenly follows an ancillary trail, they might become lost.
    • To remedy this problem, Sarah will work with Colloquium and Campus Naturalists/students to inventory the green universal trail makers to replace any that have become lost or damaged. Vikki will work with Grounds to have them mark off temporary "no outlet" signs on ancillary trails.
  ○ The group discussed additional strategies that could be taken in the future to continually enhance the trails:
    • Adding information to the signs at trail access points such as expected level of risk, hours, reminders not to litter, etc..
    • Designating different trails of various length (e.g. a shorter blue trail vs a longer green trail).
    • Developing a smart phone app and/or ensuring the accuracy of FGCU trail information on third party apps such as the National Geographic's All Trails app.
    • Tracking all research, academic, maintenance, and permitting projects that affect the trails in a centralized way to increase communication flow between the various groups who regularly use the trails or plan to change the layout of existing trails for campus development.
    • Formalize information about the trails that can be shared with New Student Programming, the Office of Housing & Residence Life, Human Resources and other departments that orient new people to our campus.

Master Plan Update- Tom Mayo
• The Steering Committee is just wrapping up data collection and are now moving into the analysis phase
• The internal Transit Forum will be tomorrow and external conversations with the Municipal Planning Organization, LeeTran, and others will also be taking place in the coming weeks.
• Next month there will be an Energy & Sustainability Forum and a General Master Planning Forum.
• There will be a public hearing on June 10th, which will begin the 90-day open comment period. The forums and stakeholder meetings that have taken place these past few months are the mechanisms
through which the Steering Committee and Consultants are gathering feedback from the internal campus community and the open comment period is intended for stakeholders outside of the university.

- In addition, the original schedule has been extended into the Fall semester.

**PBC & Strategic Planning Update- Rhonda Holtzclaw**

- Rhonda updated the group on the BOT meeting that took place this morning.
  - The strategic planning goals are being formed at this time. To better align with the BOG goals, they are being consolidated into fewer goals, and there will not be a separate goal for sustainability. ESC members are encouraged to brainstorm ways to infuse sustainability benchmarking into each of the new proposed goals.

**Energy Audit- Sim Komisar**

- We should spend time educating ourselves more about using the GRITS software and consider using it to better manage how energy and carbon emissions saving projects are funded, tracked, and monetized through a formalized Green Revolving Fund. If, after doing our homework, we believe that the GRITS tool could benefit our campus, we should propose using by engaging the PBC, Foundation, and President Bradshaw.
  - The Physical Plant and Office of Housing & Residence Life have already been implementing mini-Green Revolving Fund type projects informally to increase the efficiency of our campus.
    - The Physical Plant uses money saved from green initiatives to be invested further into additional green upgrades. (i.e. money saved from energy decreases from motion sensors is invested into additional motion sensors. Rebate money was invested into air recovery ventilation upgrades).
    - These projects are informally happening because the business case for doing them is strong. Formally dedicating larger amounts of money into projects like this through a dedicated Green Revolving Fund could assist FGCU in realizing larger projects that increase the sustainability of our campus.
  - Tom Stromolo will continue with the energy audit in Holmes Hall tomorrow. Sim's Sustainability Engineering Class is assisting to gain practical experience by using our campus as a living laboratory.

**Announcements:**

- Campus Beautification Day is this Saturday. We have 225 plants that will be planted behind Griffin and Howard Hall. Numerous groups on campus are involved (Physical Plant, FGCU Hillel, Men's Soccer, SAC, Colloquium, EH&S, etc.) and many of the plants are being donated thanks to our affiliation as a Tree Campus USA.
- Recyclemania is in test weeks now and will officially begin on February 1st. Jen Macbeth's Colloquium class is providing the majority of the volunteer labor and they have partnered with some student leaders in the Honors Program and Student Government to successfully participate in the tournament. In addition to the main campus competition, we will have four basketball game collection days.
- There will be a Colloquium Trail Cleanup up on Feb 21st.
- Main Entrance Road enhancements will start in April. Road drainage work by Lee County is also scheduled for that time frame. Tom will let us know as soon as the demolition plan and start date are finalized so that we can organize volunteers to relocate plants.
- The ETI groundbreaking will take place on Feb. 24th at 11:00 am.

**Next Meeting**
February 3, 2015, 1:30-3:00 AB7-402