**Environmental Stewardship Committee - December 2016 Minutes**

**December 8, 2016**

**Attendees:**

Seth Lienard- Event and Conference Planning

Amanda Erdman - Director of Residence Life

Leif Anderson - Vice President & Chief Strategy Officer

Emily Schilling - Biology and Environment Studies

Christina Erickson - Facilitator and Committee Chair

Allyson Green - Campus Kitchens and Chief Sustainability Officer

Andrea Porter - Environmental Steward Fellow

**Announcements:**

* The DAPL Event is tonight, Thursday Dec. 8, 2016 for more information please check out the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/193628241095806/>
* Please register for the following free workshop:

“Advancing Climate Adaptation in Minnesota’s Colleges and Universities” January 31, 2017

U of MN St. Paul Campus

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/advancing-climate-adaptation-in-minnesotas-colleges-and-universities-tickets-29764255690?aff=eac2>

Several of us already have signed up, and it looks like a great event!

**Presentation to the UC: (Christina and Allyson)**

On Monday December 5, 2016 Christina and Allyson presented to the UC our Climate Action Plan. They provided a brief history of the ESC, the formation of the plan presented, in order to open it up further for additional conversation.

**Feedback:**

Sounded positive and excited

Pick a few big ticket items to focus on campus

Think about the support we give to others on campus and what does that mean to the campus as a whole.

**Next Steps:**

**How do we now as an accountable committee, organize ourselves to drive change?**

1. Name goals
2. Name initiatives that provide clear implementation.
   1. This is open to debate as we look into which initiatives we should chose, are they a few larger projects or several small projects.
3. Schedule initiatives deadline, communicate our initiatives and maintain an individual to sustain these projects (ownership)
4. Can we build a cohort of students to help us to build and implement these initiatives and goals? (internships designated with the ESC)
5. Mac Grant: we are applying for this grant in the hopes that this will identify us as a leader in environmental stewardship.
6. Communication:
   1. Marketing Communication Plan (Seth)
   2. A focus on building communication of the ESC’s Climate Action Plan, to harness the human power around us to move towards a community change.
7. Ideas:

a. Love Local Water! Water bottle ban to reduce waste and to encourage using reusable water bottles.

b. Composting - this is already in action and is currently easy for more campus community involvement. Currently there has been little to no education about bins, practices, etc., and would be a great next step.

c. AugSem and exploration with who, what, how, we influence general education curriculum courses to have an environmental sustainability theme. ESC will reach out to Katie Bishop and Jackie Devries to learn more.

**Other Agenda points:**

**Mark Chamberlin - Masters in Sustainable Design**

Would like to discuss how to communicate the goals and initiatives of the ESC in a cohesive way.

1. Ideas:
   1. Approach staff senate to discuss composting in each department. (Seth will put together a marketing communications plan)
   2. Student videos highlighting their sustainable activities and stories
   3. Branding the ESC (tabling table cloth, posters, digital screens, etc.)

**Spring Meeting Times:**

***Please update your calendars so that we can set up a meeting time ASAP.*** The spring meetings will take place every two weeks.

**Sustainable Finances:**

A question about divestment and if it supports sustainability. There is currently nothing written into our finances, should we place this into the purchasing or write it into the next plan? To get answers we will invite Beth to our February Meeting.

***Have a wonderful holiday and good luck with finals week!***

***See you in 2017!***