

Minutes of the Valdosta State University Environmental Issues Committee Meeting
April 4, 2014 (approved September 12, 2014)

Appointed Members in Attendance: Jason Allard (Chair), Theresa Grove (Chair-elect), Jim Nienow, Steven Scheuler, Larry Etling, Lynn Adams, Karen Noll, Tanya Lee, Brad Bergstrom, Linda Most, Traycee Martin

Guests: Cheryl Hatcher,

Ex Officio

Ray Sable
Candice Childs (SGA)

Meeting called to order 2:04p.m.

A. Approve Minutes: Motion to approve minutes (Lee), seconded by Adams. 9 yea, 2 abstain

B. Announcement: This is the last scheduled EIC meeting for 2013-2014 academic year.

C. Old Business

i. Updates from sub-committee chairs

1. Recycling (Nienow)- During the recycling contest between dorms, the smaller dorms are doing a “better” job than the “larger” dorms and it is unclear why. Currently 161 bags of recycled goods have been collected after 7 weeks. The current plan for dorm move-out is to have recycling stations setup on May 7-10 and they are looking for faculty volunteers to do 2 hour shifts.

2. Energy Conservation (Noll) The sub-committee reviewed a previous energy audit; the physical plant is working hard to keep the campus running, and there is not an easy fix to reduce energy usage on campus. Discussion ensued about LED vs T8 and T5 lighting, and at the current time it is not cost efficient to convert to LED, but perhaps in the future. The committee will continue to work to decrease energy usage on campus.

2. CBSS (Bergstrom)- There are temporary signs in the long-leaf grove to use palm trees and not pines for hammocks to reduce damage to trees. The plan is to install more permanent signage for the “heritage grove” of long-leaf pine on campus. A rain garden is being installed near the health sciences building in a wet-land and will consist of native plants. The idea was raised to have student organizations “adopt an area” to help maintain certain areas of campus to reduce the pressure on grounds, because there currently are not enough grounds crews to maintain all of campus.

D. New Business and Other Comments

- i. Minutes and summaries of subcommittee meetings are due to Allard by April 18.
- ii. The Green Dorm Trophy has been made almost entirely of recycled items. Hatcher’s idea is that it will travel from winning dorm to winning dorm each year. The dorms will have their name and year put on this trophy. Smaller plaques will remain in the winning dorm.

iii. A question was raised about whether the Tree Policy was voted on by the Faculty Senate and is it on the President's desk? The comment was made that it would have been an amendment to the environmental management plan and that the policy should be checked to see if it included a list of native plants.

iv. The suggestion was made to include on EIC's webpage "buttons" that will lead to the subcommittee pages. This will be looked into

v. McKinney announced the development of a sustainability committee and will be looking for nominees.

vi. BOR established a tobacco free campus policy: no smoking and no smoke-less tobacco including electronic cigarettes.

viii. The energy audit that was requested by physical plant and EIC is on the list that went to the Provost's office. Results on whether it will be funded will be announced after April 30.

E. Adjourned at 2:55p.m.