

Committee on Environmental Responsibility (CER)
Minutes for 2/5/08

Members Present: John Smedley, David Das, Camille Parrish, Susan Murphy, , Jack Murphy, Connie Mullane, Dale Chapman, Peter Anderson, Sarah Potter, Doug Genevan, Mike Pickoff, Dan Nein

Minutes approved for 1/22

Connie provided her questions for the Architects? (She will send them to me for inclusions)

Christine: List of references from previous projects

Doug: Clarified where the committee is in the process. 5 firms are being narrowed down to 3 tomorrow. They have provided references and have developed design team with sustainable consultants or in house member. There will be time for each of us to ask questions at the public meetings as well.

John: Asked about whether any have experience with Marc Rosenblum or Steven Winter.

Yes, they are referenced by 2 of the design teams.

John: Do you have any experience working with Marc Rosenblum? Would you have any problems working with him?

Christine: Did we ask specifically about renovation vs. new building? Do they have current experience with historical and new green

Sarah: Tease out what their commitment is to green technology. Just because they have one member on the team how important will that person be?

Susan: When do we decide whether we ask for LEED certification or not?

Christine: Certification can be expensive?

Is certification a percentage of the total cost or is it a flat fee.?

Green has to be included at the beginning of the design process and in the budget. Decision needs to be made at the beginning.

Sarah: Difference between passionate firm to sustainability vs. just having someone having the experience. We want them to push us on this issue? What conversations have they had with other colleges about sust.

Christine: How can they stretch things outside the box, all within the budget? Who will push us to think of new things?

Dale: Would it be good to ask them to come forward with a couple of visions or scenerios? What are our options today and then within our 25 year plan for CN?

Doug: Several firms did outline extra costs.

Christine: Do we have a payback limit of time?

Doug: No. CER might be the place to make a recommendation.

Silver was backed into after we had the budget. Would it be better to view LEEDS as integral in the project?

Peter: Yes. We want the firms to bring us the vision that is most suitable for Bates. We should be asking for them to show us divergent options at the very beginning. Here are 5 different options. Bates is bringing the program to the table and they should be bringing us the options that include these programs.

Susan: Are they given topics to address in their Public presentation.

That is something we can talk about in the committee and provide that to them.

Doug: RFP document is very detailed. The committee will be grilling them on the details.

Q: What experience do you have in innovative systems? How much did that cost?

Sarah: There are general questions that can be asked. Can we specify a question we want to ask?

Jack: Can we ask if they have worked with other colleges that are working on CN?

If we only have 2 firms that come would we prefer that they come on one day or 2?
Differing opinions.

Peter: Can we ask why they chose some consultant if we prefer another one? Will that impact the fee? Look at the team as it has been formed and not presume we will dictate the consultants to the team. We might expect them to have done some in depth research on Bates. Do they have any initial ideas for each of the specific buildings?

Other agenda items:

How do we sketch out an effective way to develop the CN road map?

Our next meeting is supposed to be during break week.
Do we need to create new subcommittees to work on specific pieces?

We are discussing putting forward several scenerios? Timeline should be that the trustees see in 10/08 with approval in May 09.

Could have a group looking at offsets, another heating, another transporation, etc.

Christine: We need to talk more about day to day cultural changes. Not hearing a lot of conversation about that.

John: We need to have more statements from the top.

C: We need to work from the bottom up. Need to get the Dean of Students involved from the very beginning. They must do this, and that etc.

Susan: First years get bombarded with so much stuff. Must be ongoing message.

Part of the JC/RA monthly meetings.

Use of the Green Tips! Where are they on the web site? We can pull them from the list?

Are there any course tie ins? What about Earth Day? Look at MLK Day.

Break down into CN subgroups and cultural subgroups.

Needs to be visible.

Jack: Met with the RA and they asked about Recyclemania. Wasn't advertised well enough and they didn't know how to recycle. They want to be sure the students know the plan for CN when we are developing it.
Students need information. For instance that one piece of paper contaminates all of the recycleables. Energy- who to contact for heat? BEAM can be a group to use.
HEATING seems to be an issue.

Dan: Would it make sense for Physical Plant to attend an RA meeting?

Jack: Among the student body they don't see the RA as representing them. Don't know exactly what the forum is?

We need to get the information out to everyone not only students. Need forums that make it easiest for students.

Is there something on-line for students? Students read the News section of the Home Page.

Inegrate into courses. Particularly FYS. One of the best routes. Students are very busy with clubs and academics.

If clever and funny (Mascot) (Gem Car) would be a constant reminder of efforts. To hand out information, etc. A campaign could be organized through student groups.

Adjourn at 1:10 pm