

Committee on Environmental Responsibility (CER)
Minutes for 3/4/08

Members Present: John Smedley, David Das, Camille Parrish, Susan Murphy, Connie Mullane, Dale Chapman, Doug Ginevan

Update by Julie:

Recyclemania Week 3: Going to week 8. Advertising graphs in various areas around campus as well as sent to JAs and RCs.

Fliers going up around all of the dorms.

Updating the Sustainability Web Site. Giving it to Connie to review and then goes to Laurie McConnell

Trashion Show 3/19 Eco Reps are working on this.

Waste Audit being postponed due to snow and weather. Env. Houses are signed up to help with this when it is done.

Architect Selection Update:

Brief summary of the 3 firms and where they stand in the decision. Harriman was eliminated and the other 2 firms will have second interviews.

John: If the Bill is demolished then there is no way we shouldn't go to passive solar building.

Eliminate the energy needs before we design the energy systems.

Susan: Bates should make a policy statement about these buildings. Other colleges have done that.

Julie: LEED Silver is a smart building today. We need to go beyond this.

John: Come up with a specification for energy reduction. GOAL. Peter would be very helpful with this exchange.

Camille: JSA said a 50% reduction of energy for the buildings is a feasible goal.

John: Geothermal discussion. Radiant flooring and ceilings. Floor for heating and ceiling for cooling.

Susan: We need to expect the firms to bring us ideas to consider that we might not be familiar with.

Julie: AC decision. Will it go into these buildings or not. Infrastructure could be put in the buildings for later utilization.

Who writes up a building policy or philosophy? Needs to be approved by the Trustees.

John: Sustainability effort around the new Dining Commons. Local and organic purchasing will be a focus.

Dale: FYS is a good place for changing the culture of the student body.

Julie: Master list of places to input sustainability needs our input as well. Casco Bay project- weekend workshop brought to USM faculty on sustainability. How to incorporate sustainability into curriculums. Faculty could apply and got \$500 to go to the workshop.

John: Mellon money for support of general education. Way to bring people together to discuss topics. Discussion of GECs and possible topics.

Subgroups:

Reconfigure groups for the road map to carbon neutrality:
Renewable energy, transportation, offsets, culture – 4 areas to focus upon.

(Catering- could supply container for beverage recycling for every event.)

Julie: Recycling is so different during the week vs over the weekend. Clear infrastructure. Some buildings have no place to put recycling bins at all.

Julie is meeting with individual recycling companies. Going single stream? She has gone to Lewiston Landfill. Looking at waste and recycling together.

Dale: Culture- commuting over the holidays. Alternative ways to commute. Can we provide them alternatives. Education.

Julie: Alternative breaks. Could these be offsets and transportation offset.

Susan: How do we meet climate neutrality?

We would look at these areas to write-up sections.

How do we want to set-up our road map. Tables or menus. Layout and numbers. Scenarios.

Cost of offsets: \$10 per metric tones of CO2 equivalents.

What is morally viable? Right now that would cost approximately \$100,000 per year.

Goals and dates: Sketch in the fall to the trustees and final to the Trustees in January.
Approval in May.

Open meeting in the fall with the trustees could be carbon neutrality in Frank's lounge.
John will talk to Elaine about reserving this time.

Constitute the subgroups now!

Timeline- Oct. 1 outline of presentation to trustees

Sept. 15 brief Elaine

Sept 1 ducks in order and first draft

June 1 rough draft from subgroups

Next meeting everyone is on a committee and finalize template for reporting out of subgroups. Menu of options and costs, timing, reduction in CO2. Pick and choose from this menu to develop the scenerios.