Minutes -Advisory Committee on Sustainability
Tuesday, July 12, 2011   9:30 am   Location: Safety Seminar Room (FM2004)

Attendance: Kris Aubrey, Edwin Bezzina (via teleconference), Nancy Burt, Jennifer Lokash, Arlene McDonald, Kevin O’Leary (joined 9:45 a.m.), Marcia Porter (replacement for Shannon O’Dea Dawson – HR), Toby Rowe, Bob Walsh.
Regrets: Kent Decker, Peter Earle, Kareem al Hassan, Mano Krishnapillai, Josh Lepawsky, Jackson McLean, Clemente Miranda, James Quinlan, Toby Rivers, Kieran Smith, Dwayne Taverner, Frank Wall.

Chair: Jennifer Lokash   Minutes: Nancy Burt

1.0 Call to order and welcome: 9:30 am

2.0 Review/Revise Agenda: No changes or revisions.

3.0 Approval of minutes: May 10 and June 14, 2011 minutes – not approved – no quorum.

4.0 Action items from previous meeting:

Action: K. Aubrey to draft a letter requesting that any new development on campus be built to LEED standards. Completed.
Action: D. Taverner volunteered to contact Chartwell’s for stats. Carried forward.
Action: T. Rowe will check on if there are fountains in the new residences and will inform M. McCarthy. Completed.
Action: M. McCarthy will contact Donna Ball to discuss if we should revisit having a green cleaning policy. Carried forward. This action should be for policies subcommittee.
Action: J. Lokash to draft letter suggesting professors accept double-sided documents from students, and will also follow up with J. Carroll at the QEI Library re printers being defaulted to double-sided. Carried Forward.
Action: T. Rowe to send out e-mail requesting volunteers to work on the Action Plan. Carried Forward.
Action: Toby Rivers to draft a letter concerning sustainable construction of the business building. Completed.

Future Action Items
Action: K. O’Leary to contact G. Jones re giving a presentation on wind power and possible reductions on MUN hydro bills. Carried forward to Fall 2012 semester.

5.0 Updates/Actions
a) Purchasing Policy: The ACS policies subcommittee was not impressed with the wording suggested for the new purchasing policy by the purchasing policy working group. T. Rowe will send back comments and will forward the draft to the ACS when she receives it. One positive point is that sustainability will be included, so departments can look at the full life cycles of products and not necessarily have to purchase the cheapest any more. J. Lokash suggested drafting a fact sheet to be sent out to departments reminding staff to keep sustainability in mind when purchasing items.
b) Waste Audit: T. Rowe provided an update on the two waste audits held last week in the MUN Childcare Centre.
c) Recycling in the UC: T. Rowe explained that multi-units have been purchased and will be installed in the UC. The Sustainability Office will be designing appropriate signage.

6.0 Reports
a) Paper and Recycling Subcommittee: No update.
b) Sustainable Infrastructure Subcommittee: T. Rowe reported that K. Aubrey has drafted a letter from the ACS requesting that any new development on campus be built to LEED standards. Also, that there are three new renovations scheduled for the near future in the School of Nursing, Engineering building, and the Business building. J. Lokash suggested the ACS draft a LEED checklist that could be sent regarding any new buildings or renovations to current buildings.
c) Policies Subcommittee: No update. The next meeting, focusing on the Sustainability Fund, is scheduled for this afternoon.
d) Marine Institute Sustainability Committee: A. McDonald reported that the campus clean-up held on May 31 was a success and that another is planned for July 28 on Holyrood Beach. The committee has met with the MMSB regarding possibly doing a waste audit this coming fall and has been looking at the possibility of building a community garden in the
courtyard. She also spoke about the composting project currently being developed and that Wade Murphy is the contact for this particular project. The committee is not meeting again until September.

e) Vice-President’s Advisory Committee on Sustainability (Grenfell Campus): E. Bezzina stated that their community garden proposal has been approved. They are planning to meet this week to finalize the site and are hoping to send out a message later this summer to gauge the interest from the Grenfell community. The Grenfell composting subcommittee has been meeting with Facilities Management regarding the delivery of the composter this coming fall. So far, one water filling station has been installed on the Grenfell campus. E. Bezzina wondered how the double-siding default initiative has worked on St. John’s campus. T. Rowe suggested getting double-sided defaults incorporated into any new photocopier contract seems to be the best way. Action: N. Burt to send signage used on St. John’s campus to Grenfell to see if it’s suitable for the new filling station on the Grenfell campus.

f) GSU: No update.
g) MUNSU: No update.
h) C & C: No update.
i) Project Green: No update

j) Community Garden: T. Rowe stated that the fence is almost finished along with the gravel for wheelchair accessibility and that planning has begun for the MUN Community Garden Grand Opening and Meet Memorial scheduled for August 10.

7.0 New Business

a) Public transit coalition: The coalition sent a draft letter, encouraging the use of public transport, to T. Rowe for input and suggestions. Another suggestion is that MUN might consider paying transit fees similar to those that municipalities like Mount Pearl currently pay for Metrobus service. Action: T. Rowe will suggest public transit coalition wait until students are back on campus in large numbers this coming September to get their input.

b) Recycling at Burton’s Pond Apartments: T. Rowe and D. Taverner have looked into the possibility of Burton’s Pond being included in the city’s recycling program. MUN is considered to be private property, and thus can only have recycling picked up at “entrances” or roadway to the campus with a 10 bag limit per entrance way. The Sustainability Office is currently surveying residents regarding recycling in Burton’s Pond to get input and consider other possibilities.

8.0 Events/Announcements

a) Community Garden events: MUN Community Garden Grand Opening and tree planting ceremony will take place directly after the Meet Memorial event that runs from 10 a.m. to noon on August 10 in the community garden behind Queen’s College. The MUN Community Garden Board of Directors is considering taking part in an Open House for all community gardens in the St. John’s area scheduled for August 21, 2011.

b) Waste Management webinar: Will be held in the Sustainability Office (FM2040) on July 19 at 2:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: August 9, 2011 in the Board of Regents boardroom (A2029)