Minutes - Advisory Committee on Sustainability
Tuesday, May 11, 2010  9:30 am   Location: Earth Sciences building boardroom (ER4002)

Attendance: Nancy Burt, Paula Corbett (left 10:42), Peter Earle (arrived 9:45), Josh Lepawsky, Jennifer Lokash (arrived 9:45), Meghan McCarthy, Angela McLoughlin, Clemente Miranda, Shannon O’Dea Dawson, David Pippy (Registrars Office alternate), Mary Pippy (MI alternate), Terry Riche, Toby Rowe, Abigail Steel, Dwayne Taverner, Frank Wall, Bob Walsh.

Regrets: Kris Aubrey, Kent Decker, Alex Dolter, Julie Green, Danielle Jeddore, Mano Krishnapillai, Arlene McDonald, Meghan Mitchell, Kevin O’Leary, Kate Reid-Shute, Toby Rivers.

Chair: Abigail Steel    Minutes: Nancy Burt

1.0 Call to order and welcome: 9:30 am

2.0 Review/Revise Agenda: T. Rowe explained that the presentation by Chartwells rep., Louise Hudson, has been cancelled for today due to an illness in her family. Also, that a group photo of the ACS will be taken at the start of this meeting and will appear in the next Communicator.

3.0 Approval of minutes: April 13, 2010: approved (P. Corbett / S. O’Dea Dawson)

4.0 Action items from previous meeting:

   Action: T. Rowe to set up a meeting with Health and Safety concerning using New Alta to collect batteries (other than rechargeable). Carried forward. T. Rowe and N. Burt updated on Hazardous Materials Day held on May 4 and how approximately 160 batteries were disposed of through Sustainability Office, in addition to over 1200 that were submitted directly from Engineering when the Sustainability Office contacted them with the information. Also that she will check into the possibility of having non-rechargeable battery disposal on some sort of a regular basis (through Health and Safety).

   Action: T. Rowe to contact other departments to determine if interested in participating in Green Report Card. Carried forward. T. Rowe updated that there isn’t enough time to generate the surveys and information required to participate this year, so will revisit again early next year.

   Action: T. Rowe will send out invitations to students chosen for subcommittees. Carried forward until fall semester.

   Action: K. Aubrey will modify letter on file and send to D. Miles, K. Decker, C. Burke and L. Walker in support of LEED certified residences. Carried forward. K. Aubrey drafted letter. T. Rowe suggested that the letter needs to be revised based on information she has received from Fac Man.

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

   Action: M. Krishnapillai to send list of ideas from PACS to T. Rowe. Carried forward.

   Action: T. Rowe to invite Chartwells representative to ACS meeting to discuss their sustainability initiatives at MUN. Carried forward. Louise Hudson of Chartwells was scheduled to do a presentation at today’s meeting but had to cancel. T. Rowe will reschedule.

5.0 Reports

a) Paper and Recycling subcommittee: T. Rowe provided background information on the used furniture redistribution project. N. Burt provided information on the outcome of the project, concluding that a total 70 pieces of used furniture were redistributed throughout campus instead of being disposed of as surplus. P. Corbett mentioned the presentation given by faculty members from the University of the Sunshine Coast in Australia. T. Rowe stated that there are no terms of reference for this subcommittee and that they’ll review this at their next meeting.

b) Buildings subcommittee: no update.

c) Policies subcommittee: no update.

d) Marine Institute Sustainability Committee: M. Pippy stated that they have a meeting scheduled for next week, and provided a quick update on the hydration station that was recently installed.

e) Principal’s Advisory Committee on Sustainability – SWGC: no update.
f) **Project Green:** T. Riche stated that the Dump & Run Sale went very well. Also, that they’re already planning sustainable events for fall orientation.

**g) MUNSU:** M. McCarthy gave brief outline of what they’ve been working on. The first being a presentation to High School students to inform them about bottled water. They are also forming a coalition to attempt to make the Province bottled water free. M. McCarthy has also been consulting with other student unions to see if a student sustainability coordinator would be feasible within MUNSU. She also met with Donna Ball, Sr. Policy Analyst, and plans to draft a letter to K. Decker regarding the MUN purchasing policy and hopes to be included in the working group for policy review. M. McCarthy requested to be included in the Policies Subcommittee of the ACS.

**h) Housing (D. Taverner):** T. Rowe mentioned that cardboard recycling bins were set up in residences for when students were moving out last year, and asked Dwayne if any were in place this year. B. Walsh suggested using the maintenance management system where a work order can be repeated automatically from year to year. D. Taverner added that Burton’s Pond Apts. need well marked bins and provided a quick update on the new residence planned for next to Burton’s Pond.

6.0 *Updates*

**a) Action Plan:** T. Rowe displayed working action plan document on-screen and requested input on the draft objectives from all ACS members. Meetings are ongoing. **Action:** T. Rowe to make changes to objectives as discussed and distribute to MI and SWGC committees.

**b) Transportation Surveys:** T. Rowe provided an update on both the staff and student transportation surveys. Both surveys are now closed. The response was good, but there are no final results to report as of yet.

**c) Used Furniture Redistribution project:** See Reports 5.0 a).

**d) Community Garden:** T. Rowe stated that the best site for the community garden seems to be behind Queen’s College. There is a meeting to provide information to MUN community and gauge support for a garden on May 20. Next step after this meeting is that the proposal will go to the SEC. **Action:** T. Rowe will send out information to ACS on location and time of meeting.

**e) Staffing:** T. Rowe stated that the Sustainability Office will employ a SWASP student for the summer if funding is secured, in addition to MUCEP students.

7.0 **New Business**

**a) New Faculty of Medicine building complaints:** T. Rowe stated that there has been some concern that there is nowhere allotted for bike users to store their bikes in the new faculty of medicine building. She has checked into these complaints and confirms that there is a bike cage in the plans for this new facility.

8.0 **Events/Announcements**

**a) BikeShare launch:** M. McCarthy stated that the BikeShare launch held Friday, May 7 was a success, but they lost their funding for the Bikeshare co-ordinator. The launch will be repeated again this Friday, May 14 because of the increased donations over the past year, they still have bikes available.

**b) 15 Minute Clean-up:** T. Rowe gave brief outline of the 15 minute clean-up initiative being promoted by CBC and wondered if she should send out a newsline to gauge interest and questioned if there is time to organize by this Friday. S. O’Dea Dawson suggested perhaps May 21 would allow more time for organization and promotion, but she feels it could be pulled together by this Friday, May 14 if necessary.

9.0 **Next Meeting:** June 8, 2010