Minutes -Advisory Committee on Sustainability
Tuesday, November 9, 2010   9:30 am  Location: Board of Regents boardroom (A2029)

Attendance: Kris Aubrey, Edwin Bezzina (via teleconference), Nancy Burt, Peter Earle, Mano Krishnapillai (via teleconference), Jennifer Lokash, Arlene McDonald, Meghan McCarthy, Jackson McLean (left 10:30), Shannon O’Dea Dawson, Kevin O’Leary, James Quinlan, Toby Rowe, Kieran Smith (via teleconference), Bob Walsh

Regrets: Kent Decker, Julie Green, Danielle Jeddore, Josh Lepawsky, Angela McLoughlin, Clemente Miranda, Toby Rivers, Dwayne Taverner, Frank Wall.

Chair: James Quinlan   Minutes: Nancy Burt

1.0 Call to order and welcome: 9:30 am

2.0 Review/Revise Agenda:  Add to New Business – Waste Audit

3.0 Approval of minutes: August 10 and September 14, 2010 minutes approved (J. Lokash / S. O’Dea Dawson). October 12, 2010 minutes approved (M. McCarthy / J. Lokash).

4.0 Action items from previous meeting:

Action: M. McCarthy will draft letter in support of sustainable purchasing policies and forward to ACS members for input prior to sending to K. Decker. Carried forward.

Action: J. Quinlan to send link about the GSU bi-election and outcome. Completed.

Action: N. Burt to send Furniture Finder information to S. O’Dea Dawson to run in The Gazette. Carried forward.

Action: S. O’Dea Dawson will speak with I. Muzychka to find out why there is a stand alone kiosk that recently showed up in the lobby of the Science building. Completed. S. O’Dea Dawson reported that this screen is included in the video screens that were set up throughout campus recently.

Action: S. O’Dea Dawson to check on the possibility of having the screens turned off overnight and on holidays.

Action: T. Rowe to send revised ToR document (with MISU added) via e-mail to group for input. Carried forward.

Action: T. Rowe to set up meeting with Kent Decker to review ToR for overarching committee. Carried forward.

Action: T. Rowe to send out e-mail for members to approve J. Quinlan as co-chair of the ACS. Completed

Action: T. Rowe to e-mail information on how to sign up to the Community Garden listserv. Completed.

Action: N. Burt to link to Kindness Friday website as soon as we receive the information. Completed.

Future Action Items

Action: T. Rowe to contact other departments to determine if there is any interest in participating in Green Report Card. Carried forward until January 2011.

Action: T. Rowe updated that there isn’t enough time to generate the surveys and information required to participate this year, so will revisit again in early 2011.

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 2011 semester.

5.0 Membership

a) Interim co-chair - J. Quinlan was approved as interim co-chair.

b) Resignation – M. Mitchell has resigned as at large member.

6.0 Reports

a) Paper and Recycling subcommittee: T. Rowe explained that the last meeting was a discussion on paper issues at the Library. There is a paper-use counter available on the QEII section of the website that shows photocopier use is down, but printer use has increased. M. McCarthy stated that photocopiers in the library are not defaulted to double-side, but the printers are. There was some discussion about this as it was thought that the copiers were double-sided. Action: T. Rowe to check on status of printers and photocopiers at library.

b) Sustainable Infrastructure subcommittee: no meeting.

c) Policies subcommittee: K. O’Leary stated that the policies subcommittee discussed the purchasing policy and sustainability fund development. M. McCarthy said that there are only two people on the working group to revise the
purchasing policy and then read a letter she drafted requesting an ACS member also be on this working group. She is sending a letter from the student unions asking for a position on the working group as well.

d) Marine Institute Sustainability Committee: A. McDonald provided update. They are looking for funding for another hydration station and also have set up a subcommittee to promote carpooling. They are working on getting internal forms online and hope to have the staff leave forms uploaded and available online by late December. The MMSB set up a booth at MI during waste reduction week and provided boxes for cell phone recycling. T. Rowe explained some of the privacy issues with MUN and MI cell phone recycling. A. McDonald stated that the boxes are just for personal cell phones, not MI issued phones.

e) PACS (Grenfell): E. Bezzina reported that they have purchased a composter with the help of funding from outside sources. This composter will service Grenfell, CONA and the hospital. T. Rowe mentioned that she and B. Walsh met with the MMSB recently about the potential for a similar composting project on the St. John’s campus and she feels there needs to be a waste audit completed before considering setting up such a composting system. She hopes to apply for funding through the MMSB Harris Centre waste management research fund, but hasn’t found a researcher to partner with to date. PACS is in the early stages of developing a community garden. E. Bezzina agreed to be the PACS representative on the ACS.

Action: T. Rowe to send E. Bezzina a copy of the St. John’s campus community garden proposal.

f) GSU: J. Quinlan stated that the GSU has approved a student sustainability co-ordinator position and is setting up a sustainability committee.

g) MUNSU: M. McCarthy stated that they are currently running a month-long educational campaign against bottled water. She spoke at a Leadership, Education and Preparation Program (LEAP) meeting where they served bottled water. Due to the Metrobus strike, MUNSU has been focusing on setting up a section of their website for sharing rides, utilizing the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) online system. T. Rowe wondered how this new system fits in with the RideShare system currently on my.mun.ca. J. McLean stated that they have requested a disclaimer for the current website stating that theirs is a new program. M. McCarthy said this was all completed very quickly because of the strike and that they need more discussion at a later date.

h) Project Green: J. McLean said they showed a film on toxic chemicals in plastics last week called *Toxic Trespass*. Next week’s film will be *FLOW*. He voiced Project Green’s concerns with the Burton’s Pond renovations. B. Walsh explained that the changes are being made for wheelchair accessibility and for walking. At the last meeting they discussed the St. John’s Curb-it recycling program and if MUN should get involved in this program. J. McLean explained that he now has the keys to the BikeShare bike storage location and added that there is no funding available so the program is not currently operating.

i) C & C: no update.

7.0 Updates

a) Community Garden: no update provided - meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m. due to fire alarm.

b) Action Plan: no update provided - meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m. due to fire alarm.

c) Terms of Reference: no update provided - meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m. due to fire alarm.

d) BikeShare and RideShare: For BikeShare see update see 6.0 h). For RideShare update see 6.0 g).

8.0 New Business

a) Purchasing Policy: See Policies subcommittee

b) Meeting structure and action list: no update provided - meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m. due to fire alarm

c) Waste Audit: See PACS update

9.0 Events/Announcements: No update provided - meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m. due to fire alarm

Next Meeting: December 14, 2010