

Minutes

**Environmental Issues Committee Meeting  
April 5, 2019  
Bailey Science Center 3026 (Fishbowl) from 2-3 pm**

Present: Donald Thieme, Chair, Deborah Hall, Past-Chair, Evelyn Davis-Walker, Co-Chair, Emily Cantonwine, Brad Bergstrom, Cristobal Serran-Pagan, Samira Garcia, Samantha Paul, Kynthia James, Carl Hand (ex officio),

Absent: Gregory Brown, Jeffrey Vasseur, Dennis Conway, Luke Jones, Christopher Downing, , Martha Onate, Phil Foster, Traycee Martin (ex officio), Karen Knoll, Alan Rowe (ex officio), Jill Ferrell Rountree (ex officio), Jason Allard (ex officio), Jeremy Bauer (ex officio), Ray Sable, (ex officio), Meredith Lancaster (ex officio), Bob Greenbaum (SGA rep), Abigail Easton (SGA rep)

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Meeting was called to order at 2:02 by Donald Thieme.

Quorum was met. The February 15<sup>th</sup> minutes were discussed at 2:07. Deborah Hall moved to approve the minutes with a second motion from Samantha Paul. Approval with a unanimous vote by show of hands.

Announcements – An Environmental Panel Discussion regarding Recycling will be held on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> in the Odum Library Auditorium from 7:30-9pm.

A discussion regarding the student organization S.A.V.E.'s engagement on campus. The EIC is still trying to find ways to invite S.A.V.E. to participate in our committee meetings.

Service Projects- Brad Bergstrom and 5 volunteers helped plant 50 very young seedlings trees. Not looking like 100% survival, but the hope is that many will survive.

BioBlitz – coming up on April 12-13. Open to the Public. Biological survey to identify species, while engagement with the public. Geocaching, letterboxing and scavenger hunts at the Grassy Pond.

Awnings proposal has effectively died in committee until Ray Sable, Director of Plant Operations, returns from his leave.

Reports:

Ex-Officio Reports

Tracycee Martin, VP for Finance and Administration – No report.

Ray Sable, Director of Plant Operations – No report.

Meredith Lancaster, Environmental Officer – No report.

Alan Rowe, University Police Chief – No report.

Jill Ferrell Rountree, Director of Parking and Transportation – No report.

#### Subcommittee Reports

- a. The Campus Beautification Subcommittee Report was given by Chair Brad Bergstrom.
  - i. Brad met with Tracyee Martin and Monica Haines, Grounds Supervisor. Walked around the overgrown native garden and stressed the importance of having the invasive plants treated and removed. The first round of treatment to try to remove the three biggest evasive plants was started by a local contractor, but the work was minimal and they realized it will be a bigger job than initially anticipated.
  
- b. The Resources Conservation Subcommittee report was given by Deborah Hall, Chair..
  - i. Research and follow up will occur to find out whether or not Chick-fil-A Styrofoam cups are at any other universities.
  - ii. Susan Jones from Plant Operations 229-333-2177 says a building maintenance supervisor is responsible for turning off the fountain on windy days. People are to call her also when water leaks, irrigation heads are broken, etc... and she will initiate a work order to fix.
  - iii. Energy parking and solar collectors will be investigated further.
  - iv. Tracyee Martin 49 different meter accounts. We are working on setting up a meeting to streamline the number of accounts.
  - v. The subcommittee met on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Carl Hand, ex officio, Samantha Paul and Deborah Hall discussed ways to rethink the Environmental minor where faculty teaching courses within the minor would naturally form a sustainability council. This council could also strengthen the linkage among different areas on campus. The hope is faculty, staff and administration will support sustainability on campus, resulting in feeding into the South Georgia Regional Impact. The subcommittee will talk to Dr. Ari Santas, Dr. Lai Kent Orenduff and Dr. Sheri Gravett to gain a better understanding on how the structure of non-major minors will be housed and funded in the future. The subcommittee will report back based on those interactions in the fall. The EIC is in support of the development of a Sustainability Council to be formed by interested faculty, staff and students as a pilot initiative that can possibly be supported by workshop funds.
  
- c. Recycling Subcommittee discussion:
  - i. Cristobal Serran-Pagan, Chair of the Recycling subcommittee, reported that there were many great ideas were suggested by faculty and staff of recycling initiatives.
  - ii. Recycling bins now have clear signage.

- iii. On Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> , Anthony Musgrove from the City of Valdosta will discuss with subcommittee about what happens to the recycling after it leaves campus at 5-6pm in Ashley Hall 1212.
- iv. Panel Discussion on the Environment with Richard Hardy, Public Work's Director in Valdosta, Dr. Donald Thieme, Chair of the Environmental Committee at VSU, John S. Quarterman, Suwannee Riverkeeper on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 7:30-9pm in Odum Library Auditorium.

## 2. New Business

Brad Bergstrom suggested the EIC chair review the committee roster and ensure people who have not attended the minimum required EIC meetings (based on the committee by-laws, Section 3, part C, members must attend at least one meeting per semester.) Those members who did not meet this minimum this past year should be removed from the committee so that individuals who want to be on the committee can next year.

Next meeting is scheduled Fall 2019.

Adjournment: 3:06 p.m. motioned by Deborah Hall with a second motion from Evelyn Davis-Walker.

Minutes taken by Evelyn Davis-Walker

## Subcommittee Rosters

### **CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Chair, Brad Bergstrom ([bergstrm@valdosta.edu](mailto:bergstrm@valdosta.edu))

From EIC: Jeremy Bauer ([jabauer@valdosta.edu](mailto:jabauer@valdosta.edu)), Dennis Conway ([dpconway@valdosta.edu](mailto:dpconway@valdosta.edu))

Ari Santas ([asantas@valdosta.edu](mailto:asantas@valdosta.edu))

J. Richard Carter ([rcarter@valdosta.edu](mailto:rcarter@valdosta.edu))

Marc Pufong ([mpufong@valdosta.edu](mailto:mpufong@valdosta.edu))

Jennifer Breneiser ([jbreneiser@valdosta.edu](mailto:jbreneiser@valdosta.edu))

Esther L. Iverson ([eliverson@valdosta.edu](mailto:eliverson@valdosta.edu))

Emily Cantonwine ([egcantonwine@valdosta.edu](mailto:egcantonwine@valdosta.edu))

Shirley Thompson ([sethompson@valdosta.edu](mailto:sethompson@valdosta.edu))

Linda Most ([lrmmost@valdosta.edu](mailto:lrmmost@valdosta.edu))

Philip Foster (COSA rep) [pwhester@valdosta.edu](mailto:pwhester@valdosta.edu)

### **RESOURCE CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Deborah Hall, Chair ([dehall@valdosta.edu](mailto:dehall@valdosta.edu))

Carl Hand, Co-Chair (Ex-officio) ([chand@valdosta.edu](mailto:chand@valdosta.edu))

Luke Jones, Chair ([lukjones@valdosta.edu](mailto:lukjones@valdosta.edu))

Sebastian Bartos ([spbartos@valdosta.edu](mailto:spbartos@valdosta.edu))

Don Thieme ([dmthieme@valdosta.edu](mailto:dmthieme@valdosta.edu))

Jason Allard (Ex-officio) ([jmallard@valdosta.edu](mailto:jmallard@valdosta.edu))

Samantha Paul ([sepaul@valdosta.edu](mailto:sepaul@valdosta.edu))

Karen Knoll ([knoll@valdosta.edu](mailto:knoll@valdosta.edu))

### **RECYCLING SUBCOMMITTEE**

Cristobal Serran-Pagan, Chair ([cserranpagan@valdosta.edu](mailto:cserranpagan@valdosta.edu))

Meredith Lancaster ([mlancaster@valdosta.edu](mailto:mlancaster@valdosta.edu))

Kynthia James ([kljames@valdosta.edu](mailto:kljames@valdosta.edu))

Martha Onate ([mjonate@valdosta.edu](mailto:mjonate@valdosta.edu))

Gregory Brown ([gbrown@valdosta.edu](mailto:gbrown@valdosta.edu))

Jeff Vasseur ([jvasseur@valdosta.edu](mailto:jvasseur@valdosta.edu))

Evelyn Davis-Walker ([emdaviswalker@valdosta.edu](mailto:emdaviswalker@valdosta.edu))

Samira Garcia ([sygarcia@valdosta.edu](mailto:sygarcia@valdosta.edu))