Sustainability Charter Committee

Friday, May 15, 2015

1:30 PM

University Services Building Room 202

AGENDA

1. Call to order – Art Bettis and Brian Thompson, Co-chairs
2. Letter to President Mason - All
3. Proposed Solar Project Update – Don Guckert
4. Biomass Project Update – Ingrid Gronstal Anderson
5. Classroom Consolidation – Liz Christiansen
6. Solid Waste Strategic Plan – Eric Holthaus
7. Intergovernmental Committee proposal discussion - All
8. Next meeting and adjournment

Attachment: [Solid Waste Strategic Plan](http://sustainability.uiowa.edu/assets/recycling-and-waste-reduction/60-waste-diversion-5-year-plan.pdf)

Sustainability Charter Committee

May 15, 2015

- Meeting Minutes –

MEMBERS/LIAISONS PRESENT: Art Bettis, Liz Christiansen, Don Guckert, Sara Maples, Sarah Nagengast, Tyler Priest, Ericka Raber, Brian Thompson

OTHERS PRESENT: Shawn Albaugh Kleppe, Ingrid Anderson, Eric Holthaus

LETTER TO PRESIDENTIAL SELECTION COMMITTEE – Committee members expressed concern that sustainability was not mentioned in the presidential job description and agreed to write a letter to the chair of the selection committee.

LETTER TO PRESIDENT MASON

Committee members suggested sending a letter to President Mason to thank her for her commitment to sustainability. Liz drafted the letter and both Brian and Art signed it.

PROPOSED SOLAR PROJECT UPDATE

Don Guckert reported that FM is continuing to study the impact and financial aspect of this particular project.

BIOMASS PROJECT UPDATE

Ingrid Gronstal Anderson reported that currently there are just under 100 acres of acres now planted in miscanthus with an additional 200 leased acres ready for planting; and the team is in talks with other interested farmers. She also reported that the Power Plant is currently running a 3-week test burn on the miscanthus/coal mix to determine the right blend. Also of note is that the program is being nominated for the Governor's Iowa EnvironmentalExcellenceAward.

CLASSROOM CONSOLIDATION

Liz Christiansen reported that the results of the classroom space consolidation during last summer’s 10-week session demonstrated a 19% reduction in energy consumption. The English-Philosophy Building, MacLean Hall and the Pomerantz Center were not scheduled after 6 p.m. during the week nor on Saturday and Sundays and then cycled down during the unscheduled times. This summer Blank Honors Center and Boyd Law Building will be added to this schedule strategy.

SOLID WASTE STRATEGIC PLAN

Eric Holthaus reported on the 60% Waste Diversion by 2020 5-year strategic plan. Of the nine (9) goals, two (2) will be assigned to task force teams. They are the Infrastructure/Service and Compost initiatives. Eric will return with a report in the fall.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE PROPOSAL

The committee discussed the suggestions by the Common Marchers of developing an Intergovernmental Committee on public policy and sustainability, with a recommendation that someone from the Sustainability Charter Committee be a representative. Committee members suggested further clarification, such as a charge or purpose description of this Intergovernmental Committee.