

Wednesday April 12, 2016

1:00 – 2:30pm

Room 5-155

Minutes

Attendees:

Alex Lautensach, Associate Professor, Education, Terrace Campus
Arctica Cunningham, NUGSS Representative
Arthur Fredeen, Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management
Aishat Oguntola, NBGSS Sustainability
Amanda Drew, Energy Technician
David Claus, Assistant Director, Facilities Management
Erik Jensen, Dean, College of Science and Management
Kyrke Gaudreau, Sustainability Manager (Acting Chair)
Michelle Connolly, PICS Coordinator
Zarah Holvick, Alumni Representative

Regrets:

Carleen Paltzat, SGU President
Daniel Ryan, Provost
Daniel Weeks, President
Geoff Payne, Vice-President Research
Leslie Burke, Purchasing Agent
Mark Dale, Dean, Regional Campuses
Robert Budde, Professor, English
Robert Knight, Vice-President, Finance and Business Operations
Raychill Snider, NUGSS Sustainability
Serena Black, PGPIRG
Trevor Fuson, CUPE Representative

Guests

Rebecca Kehler – Tiny House Enthusiast

1. Approval of Agenda
 - Approved (E Jensen / Z Holvick)
2. Approval of Minutes – March 17, 2017
 - Approved (A Drew / M Connolly)

NEW BUSINESS:

3. Green Fund and Green Travel Grant Proposals – D Claus

Vermi-Composting – Recommendation: Fund with Conditions

- Motion – Fund subject to proponent: (1) clarifying honorarium amount with Sustainability Manager; and (2) coming to an agreement with Facilities about collection and transport of food waste from the cafeteria to the EFL.

Environmental Activism – Recommendation: Not Fund

- Primary concerns: the proposal stretches with the mandate of the Green Fund, as it appears to prioritize administrative tasks, as opposed to the sustainability aspects of Si's work.
- The GUPC has interest in partnering with Si and the Green Fund on future projects, but would want that funding to be enabling sustainability projects.
- Recommendation – Not Fund. Encourage proponents to submit new proposals that better meet the goals of the Green Fund.

LED Light Bulb Exchange – Recommendation: Fund with Conditions

- For this exchange to be successful will require a significant amount of advertising and communications. The GUPC requests that the proponents work with Communications and Recruiting to ensure a communications plan is designed and implemented.
- There were some concerns that the wholesale pricing provided is not competitive, as similar retail prices were found through Costco Online.

Motion – Decline to fund Environmental Activism, and fund LED Lightbulb Exchange subject to developing a communications plan and more detailed pricing information. (E Jensen / Z Holvic)

- All in favour

Irish Geographers Conference – Recommendation: Not Fund

- The GUPC expressed concerns related to the relevance of the conference to campus sustainability, and the timing of the application (the conference is less than 4 weeks out, and registration has already been paid for). Green Fund Travel Grant rules are explicit that we do not provide funding for activities that have already been paid for.
- The GUPC would encourage proponents to seek funding for travel that is more local, has not already been paid for, and to conferences with more direct relationship to campus sustainability.
- **Motion** to decline (A Cunningham / A Fredeen) – All in favour.

4. Building a Tiny House on UNBC Campus – R Kehtler

- Context: R Kehtler planning on building a tiny house and stationing it on campus, and wants to determine what steps are necessary to take, with a focus on risk and bylaws.
- Benefits to UNBC include: research into the components of tiny houses (e.g. composting, socioeconomic alternative way of living), possibility for tours, potential to celebrate and market student initiative.
- A Fredeen – Ensure we do not set precedent for anyone parking their home/RV on campus.
 - D Claus – Can limit the number of possible tiny homes. Address the problem if it arises.
- A Cunningham – Fits with UNBC's mandate of being that small school that provides opportunities to students. Would need to sort out ownership of the house, as well as develop a plan for graduation.
- E Jensen – Involve the WIDC masters students in the design.
- D Claus – UNBC not subject to City Bylaws. Potential to use this project as a pilot for City.
 - Insurance – talk with Sarah Elliot.
- Z Holvic – Ensure you have WCB sorted out.
 - Look to partner with businesses to obtain free products that demonstrate sustainable living.

5. Update on Forestry Club Green Fund Award – K Gaudreau

- Due to transition between Club execs, approximately \$2,000 of their Green Fund award has been misallocated. Club has been in discussion with K Gaudreau and L Burke to set up a repayment plan and develop a strategy for future fund disbursement.

- A Cunningham – Transition is a common challenge for all student groups. Do not want this to prevent future projects by being overly cautious.
 - A Drew – Require student groups to submit a succession plan.
 - A Fredeen – Recognize this is an institution of higher learning, and this includes letting students take risks and learning from it
 - D Claus – Revisit proposal to assign a university liaison to each Green Fund project. Have had a good track record to date.
- 6. UNBeeC – Bee City Campus Application – K Gaudreau**
- D Ryan has requested that GUPC lead the campus planning required to address the requirements of the Bee City Campus Application.
 - Potential to invite Gerry Bomford (master beekeeper) and UNBeeC club members to the GUPC.