

## Sustainability Committee Meeting

February 8, 2018

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. EAD 524

---

### Welcome & Minutes Approval

- Sandy Bauman, Sustainability Coordinator, called the meeting to order.
  - Minutes Approval: Minutes from the previous meeting were sent prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Betsy Friauf to approve the minutes, and Rachael Mobley seconded the motion. The vote carried and the minutes were approved.
  - New members: All new members introduced themselves.
- 

### Announcements

- Greeting Card Upcycling Recap: A local company collects all types of materials for use in classrooms around the city. We collected all types of greeting cards (used and unused) for 3 months in order to give them new life in a classroom. We collected a large box, and the Wellman Project will pick them up soon.
  - Week of Service: UNTHSC's Week of Service will be March 19-24<sup>th</sup>. Cowtown Cleanup will be organized on Saturday, March 24, and we will organize 2 garden work days. If your organization or department would like to plan something, please start thinking about what you'd like to do and let Sandy know so she can pass it to the organizers.
  - UNTHSC's Master Plan – The Master Plan is currently underway. Feedback sessions occurred in January and a website is forthcoming. Green Space was discussed at the meeting. For those who missed the meeting in January, you may email Lori Knowles for feedback at [lori.knowles@unthsc.edu](mailto:lori.knowles@unthsc.edu). A committee member asked about solar panels. The return on investment doesn't make financial sense since we buy our electricity so cheap. The demand for car charging stations are still very high. Your support for sustainability on campus is greatly appreciated!
  - Remote Work/Flexible Schedules for Staff: This ongoing topics of alternative work schedules including remote work and flexible schedules were discussed at today's Town Hall Meeting. HR recommends the guidelines and form for flexible work schedules to be completed by the employee and supervisor. The form can be found on the Best Place For All website: <https://www.unthsc.edu/values/best-place-for-all/best-place-alternative-work-commitee/>. The policy on remote Work should be coming out very soon. The benefits of remote work and flexible schedules are: reduced parking burden on campus, traffic congestion, less pollution and perhaps sharing space.
  - Recycling Bins: If anyone currently needs recycling bins (portable and non-portable), please send Sandy an email. Comments and concerns were expressed over custodial combining waste with recyclable items in one receptacle. Some custodial do have separate bags for each type of waste in one portable bin that cannot be immediately seen. However, if it is occurring, please contact Sandy with where, day, and approximate time as we want this program to be successful and honest. Also discussed was sharing an educational video about how recycling works. This video will be shared amongst the committee and posted in the Daily News.
  - Water Station Volunteers: Water station volunteers are need in the RES & CBH buildings. A sign-up sheet on the back of the Sign-In Roster was passed around during the meeting. There are still spots open in the RES (all floors) if you're interested in signing up. You just have to report the count each month.
- 

### Special Recognition

**Betsy Friauf: Founding Garden Coordinator**: Sustainability Committee recognized Betsy Friauf's dedicated work as Founding Community Garden Coordinator. Betsy served as the garden coordinator, a volunteer position, for 3 of the 4 years of the garden and was instrumental in making it a success. She helped set up donating produce to the Student Pantry and NICA as well as organizing several events from Planting Day to Lunch and Learns. Sandy presented her with a plaque and journal.

# MINUTES

---

## Subcommittees

- Community Garden: The next planting day is March 17, 2018 from 11:30am to 1:30pm with an urban farmer as the guest speaker. All are welcome to attend and lunch is provided (please RSVP to Sandy). Plots are currently available: \$25/yr for ½ year; \$35/yr for full year. Visit [www.unthsc.edu/communitygarden](http://www.unthsc.edu/communitygarden) for more information or email Sandy directly with questions.
- Lab Efficiency Action Program (LEAP): Let Sandy know of labs that are interested in participating in the LEAP. Financial incentives are awarded. Our goal for the 2017-2018 year will be to certify 10 labs.
- RRR (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Subcommittee – This subcommittee is focusing on making lunches, break rooms, meetings, etc. more sustainable and eco-friendly. A survey went out to the Administrative Professionals Team with another one going out to student groups. We plan to provide a best practices flyer with a table at the Earth Day Event where perhaps we teach people about recycling k-cups, etc. We are also planning on having a meeting with Four Star to address issues related to service ware and reducing waste. Also discussed were the pros and cons of Keurig use vs. standard coffee maker; recycling device for k-cups; k-cup recycle refund program; use of a permanent coffee filter. The subcommittee will work on these topics.
- Earth Day Planning – Earth Day is set for April 17 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. All booths will be interactive with giveaways since the post-event survey always indicates people want more hands-on activities. There will be topics over plastics and waterways, environmental impact of coffee; greener office supplies; litter clean-up. We are expecting 400 people to attend. No free lunch will be provided. Upcycle contest with deadline for entries through April. Cupcake decorating contest will be part of the event as well. More details to come. FitWorth, Blue Zones, Dietician will also participate.
  - Budget for Earth Day Event: A motion was made by Megan Peglar to approve the budget, and Miles Quiben seconded the motion. The vote carried the budget of \$3500 was approved.

---

## Comments & Suggestions

- A question was asked if we would have e-waste recycling at the Earth Day Event. Since we do that every 2 years, we will do that in 2019. This year, the Career Center will be highlighted with people being able to donate professional clothing.
- A question was asked about composting on campus. Currently, we compost Saint-Emilion Restaurant's pre-consumer food waste at the Community Garden. It was reiterated that Four Star does not currently have space for a food compost bin (we had a trial run 2 years ago). The new building may be a possibility with perhaps Cowboy Composting serving as the organics waste collector.
- Ashley Ngo asked if Earth Day can include an activity of turning T-shirts to bags. Since this was a demo last year, we will not do it this year.

---

## Housekeeping

Meeting Adjourned at 12:50 pm. The next meeting (meeting 4 of 6) will be on April 4th at 12:00 PM in RES 326.