

## SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

11/17/15, 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM, PCR

In attendance:

Betty Crockett	Danny Ervin	Bill Nelson
Amy Hasson	Dave Gutoskey	Karen Olmstead
Eric Berkheimer	Kevin Mann	Julia Howell
Jeff Downes	Christine Smith	Wayne Shelton
Will Barron	Gaylord Robb	

1. Solar Parking Canopy Projects Planned:
  - a. Fulton Lot H – 5 EV charging stations; seeking competitive grant up to \$120,000
  - b. Ward – 4 EV charging stations; awarded grant of \$100,100
  - c. Will be funded by power purchase agreement; third party owns and SU buys electricity production for 20 years and can buy out early or at end of term
  - d. Systems will include web-based performance monitoring
  - e. Will be scheduled summer 2016
  - f. Danny expressed concerns about the grant funding managed by the Maryland Energy Administration, which is funded by a fee that home and business owners pay
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    - i. Excess electricity produced by these private solar PV systems is required to be purchased by energy providers at retail rate when a wholesale price is more appropriate
    - ii. Many small generating systems can increase the grid system operation complexity
    - iii. The funds benefit a small population and not the majority of those that pay into the system. This will have a bigger impact on the lower income population.
2. Zipcar Program Update
  - a. 48 registered participants; Zipcar happy with trend
  - b. Good activity reported in October and early November
  - c. 2 additional cars were placed on University Park
  - d. A total of 4 cars available to students, faculty and staff
3. Green Fund Update
  - a. \$40,000 in unencumbered funds remain for Spring
  - b. Many “potential project” inquiries from SGA Sustainability Team
4. University Academic Sustainability Committee (U-ASC) update
  - a. The activities of the U-ASC have been announced previously except some recent items:
  - b. Registrar is working on a process to highlight sustainability courses and courses which include sustainability as a portion of their content.

- c. U-ASC has an intern to assist with web content and projects for the U-ASC committee
  
- 5. SGA update
  - a. Recycle madness 8741 lb – double the results for last year
  - b. Bills are being considered: toilet flush reduction; more water bottle stations; and coffee sleeves
  - c. Earth week plans are underway
    - i. trying to be more interactive
    - ii. possible farmers market
    - iii. top sustainable chef competition
    - iv. potting plants
    - v. bike generator/solar s'mores
    - vi. clean watershed road show
  
- 6. President's Climate Commitment
  - a. Climate Commitment pledge announced by White House (>200 institutions)
  - b. SU participated, similar to previous pledge with national visibility
  
- 7. Open discussion