

Stony Brook University
University Senate
Campus Environment Committee

March 19, 2007

V.P. Administration Conference Room, 221 Administration Bldg.

1:00 – 2:30 pm

Attending: Gil Hanson, Chair; Mary LaCorte, Vice-chair, Ramona Walls, Recording Secretary; Robert Aller, Bill Dethlefs, Catherine Horgan, Paul Siegel, Fred Walter.

Excused: Malcolm Bowman, Ketty Dautruche, Wendy Fidaio, Mary Hotaling, Gary Kaczmarczyk, Matthew Maiorella, John Murray, Kristen Nyitray, John Robinson, Dorothy Shannon Schiff, Catherine Vetter, Kathleen Weber, and Muriel Weyl.

Staff: Barbara Chernow, John Fogarty, Amy Provenzano.

Guests: Matt Kibby Tasha Angelet (Environmental Club)

Minutes

I. Introductions – G. Hanson

Introductions were made of all attendees.

II. Review of the Minutes – R. Walls

The minutes were approved without additional changes.

III. Status Reports

1. Campus Environmental Committee charge – G. Hanson

Change wording in last line to “or his/her designated assistant”:

This committee shall examine all aspects of the campus environment, including but not limited to conservation of natural areas, ecological preserves, and historical artifacts, transportation, parking issues, infrastructure, facilities planning, human health issues, energy efficiency, recycling, waste management, and general appearance of all campuses. It will consult with and advise the Vice-president for Facilities and Services or her/his designated assistant.

2. Effluent from County Sewage Treatment Plant – G. Hanson

Two years ago, Ben Wright (chief engineer of Suffolk County Department of Public Works; SCDPW) asked Dick Mann if they could consider working on existing plant, and possibly adding a 3-acre plot for drainage. The current plan uses 6 acres, disturbing forested and play fields. Both B. Chernow and G. Hanson met with the DEC re. SCDPW plans. President Kenny has not agreed to anything. Administration has not plans to give up land until it is determined if it is best way to solve the problem. SCDPW is interested in moving quickly.

-G. Hanson will send information on Orange County injection wells. They treat water down to drinking water standards. However, injection wells won't solve problem the problem here of nitrogen input to ground water.

-The committee decided the letter that was drafted to Peter Scully of the DEC should go to Ben Wright at SCDPW.

-Someone asked if nitrate in LI Sound higher than 3 ppm (the concentration of output from the sewage treatment plant)? It is about 10 uM in open sound (about 1ppm).

R. Walls suggested that we still send our letter, to be on record as opposing the plan to build recharge basins. M. LaCorte seconded.

B. Chernow suggested removing the point about hospital waste because we are not sure how accurate it is, and the committee agreed to delete the first three sentences of point number 2 and change the wording to reflect that it is going to SCDPW not DEC.

B. Dethlefs recommended copying the letter to President Kenny, B. Chernow and Bernard Lane (president of the University Senate).

3. Kettle Hole Park – G. Hanson

G. Hanson met with Chris Brennen and people from the consulting firm. They have plans to fix the problem. They used a kettle on campus as a recharge basin, but it had poor infiltration so it overflowed in 2005. They opened a catch basin system so water would run out of basin and into Kettle (on campus), but it shouldn't be that way. Plans are to scar the kettle and make it into a proper basin, so it can handle water on south loop road, and also stop runoff into Kettle Hole Park. They will discuss remediation with someone from Suffolk County Parks. B. Chernow will ask Chris Brennon to get back to committee on these issues.

4. Environmental Master Plan – B. Chernow

Andropogon is a sub-consultant to BBB, for Southampton and R&D Park campuses. They are already actively working on plans for those campuses. G. Hanson asked when they will interact with this committee? It should be before they give a final report. B. Chernow said that the master plan is one month into a twelve-month process, and they will report to us before the plan is complete. G. Hanson asked about the environmental master plan for the main campus. B. Chernow said Southampton and R&D Park require the environmental master plan based on the planned construction activity and the main campus does not require environmental master plans at this time.

5. Southampton Campus – postponed until later date

6. Sustainability task force – A. Provenzano

Meeting on Friday was cancelled because of weather. Will talk about how big the committee should be, what composition should be, etc. Trying to involve Environmental Club.

7. Recycling – A. Provenzano

-There was a letter from Maureen O'Leary regarding the lack of recycling on east campus.

-A. Provenzano presented info on what happens on main campus:

Paper – all offices, residence halls

Bottle and cans – 3 compartments in recyclers, looking to implement new bottle and can containers.

- Switching to clear plastic bags for refuse so you can see that recyclables are separated. Will test in SBS and V.P.'s office.
- R. Aller suggested placing recycling bins outside all large lecture halls or classrooms. Will provide email with info on where to place them.
- P. Siegel asked where do the bottles and cans go after collection. They are put into blue bins, picked up on Thursday, and dropped off at south P until there are enough for a full container.
- All asphalt and concrete from roadway projects last year was chipped and recycled. Also woody debris from pallets is shredded for mulch. University saves pallets in good condition until there are enough for a trailer load; we sell them back for \$1 per pallet.
- Hospital provides choice of plastic or silverware for patients. B. Dethlefs pointed out that in some locations, only plastic is available. In the cafeteria, a choice is not always available.
- B. Dethlefs asked if our recycling program in conjunction with Brookhaven Town? Are we reinventing ideas the town is already doing? The town feels it is losing ground with recycling, so we perhaps we can work with them. A. Provenzano said that our activities are independent of the town's.
- P. Siegel asked how many carters we have. – Only one
- R. Aller asked if recycling is part of new student orientation? – Yes, but it hasn't been working well in past, so we are trying to get this rekindled. B. Chernow mentioned that her office helped to write an orientation brochure on recycling, although they haven't been involved in orientation before. Students now get brochures on how to recycle, but university is trying to cut down on brochures.
- R. Aller suggested that we could make recycling signs in multiple languages.
- Recycle mania: Over 200 organizations involved. Stony Brook is in top 25% in at least 2 categories. See Recyclemaniacs.org. Will have a display at Earth stock.
- Southampton: trying to start out right, so there won't have to be a change in the culture later. Offices only have paper recycling bins, while garbage is centralized in each department.
- B. Dethlefs suggested having building coordinators give input on where to place recycling bins, etc. A. Provenzano said that they are working with building managers.
- T. Angelet asked about working with Campus Residence office and RA's on teaching students how to recycle. Set up for recycling will depend on the style of residence hall (corridor versus suites). Could try get RA's to emphasize importance of recycling, and to keep track of recycling bins in a positive way.

IV. New Business

1. How University ranks renovations – B. Chernow
 - Shared a presentation on capital management that was originally given to the University Cabinet (VP's office, President, people in her office, CEO of Hospital, Budget Director, Community and Gov. Affairs).
 - There are four main funding sources
 - Capital plan for infrastructure improvements for 2004-2009 budget is \$175,000,00.
 - Capital projects are administered by SUCF (they approve and give out money). SUCF used to manage most projects, but now most are managed by campus (= campus led management). Currently the campus manages about 150 projects, SUCF about 20.
 - Went through what types of project are underway, and what are some specific projects.

- Major work on high-temp water system will begin work right after graduation. East campus and Chapin work under is investigation.
- Roof replacements 9% of plan
- 15% on roadways and walkways. >50% of roads and walkways will be repaired or reconfigured by next year.
- Listed additional funds that came from the state in 2005/6
- P. Siegel asked what happened to the committee on the proposed new recreation center, which included two members from the CEC. It seems that it never met. Sue Domanda was heading committee. Project is stalled, because there is not enough money to fund entire project. C. Horgan will see her on Thursday and ask about it. Project will cost \$38 million, but now we only have \$19. Part of the extra expense is because the location requires a lot of relocation of utilities.
- Requested \$102 million from the state legislature for 2007 for maintenance, but only got \$13 million.
- Other sources of funding will finance or have financed projects such as: Staller Center Courtyard, Javits Courtyard, CEWIT, Advanced Energy Research and Technology Center, Residence Halls – West Apartments (infill), Roosevelt/Kelly Quad, Southampton residence halls
- B. Dethlefs asked if Chapin was repaired after fire. The insurance company will soon advance funds to campus so repairs can began. Are there other plans for Chapin? B. Chernow said her office doesn't handle campus residences. Committee should invite Dallas Bauman to talk about this.
- Presidential Initiatives (funded from other sources) include: Journalism, Quality of Life Fund, Campus Beautification, Stony Brook Manhattan
- C. Horgan asked how long the will high-temp hot water project will take? A. Provenzano said at least one year, after May shutdown.
- R. Aller asked if there are any special initiatives sources to tap, to fund projects like alternative roof design or parking structures? B. Chernow and T. Harrigan completed 8 grants this years, but didn't any of them get funded. For example, there is a current application for solar roof panels.

2. Little acre woods – Matt Kibby

Has been working on this since he arrived a little over a year ago. Has the schedule for when plant material will arrive, and funding to reforest the entire area. Volunteer planting will coincide with Earthstock. People can volunteer through Campus Pride Patrol. Talk to Eileen Scala to volunteer.

3. Silvery Aster on Southampton Campus – Matt Kibby

A member of the Botany Club of Long Island wrote to this committee to let us know about a populations of the endangered species Silvery Aster on the Southampton Campus. It was there four years ago. It is probably still there, because it is in an undisturbed area. There is no construction planned for the location. It flowers in July/August. M. Kibby will survey in the summer to see if it is still there and make an effort to protect it.

4. Storm water retention basin repairs – B. Chernow

M. Bowman sent an email asking if there were plans to restore vegetation after repair of basins. Will report at next meeting on what really happened during drainage basin maintenance.

5. Campus smoking ban – B. Dethlefs

Smoking ban proposal has been rescheduled for April 9 meeting of University Senate.

6. R. Aller asked about the environmental effects of the University's planned enrollment increase. B. Chernow asked to talk about it at the next meeting.

7. P. Siegel suggested that we find out from Rich Young what is the latest on parking enforcement.

8. Flexcars – M. LaCorte will report on this at next meeting.

9. Friends of Ashley Schiff Preserve – M. LaCorte

Scholarship recipient will present this week. B. Chernow said she could print the new map, if someone sends her the file.

V. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 16, 2007, at 1:00 PM, in the VP Administration conference room.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE 2006/2007

Charge: It shall examine all aspects of the campus environment, including but not limited to safety, security, facilities planning, state of facilities, and general appearance of the campus. It will consult with and advise the Assistant Vice President for Facilities and Services.

Chair: Gilbert N. Hanson, Vice Chair: Mary Woodward, Recording Secretary: Ramona Walls

Humanities and Fine Arts:

Vacant			
Vacant			

Social and Behavioral Sciences:

John Robinson	Psychology-2-7832	Robinson@psych1.psy.sunysb.edu	9/08
Vacant			

Natural Sciences:

Gil Hanson	Geosciences, 2-8210	GHanson@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/08
Frederick Walter	Physics, 2-8232	fwalter@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/09

Library:

Kristen Nyitray	Library, 2-7119	KNyitray@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/08
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College of Engineering:

John Murray	Electrical Engineering, 2-8413	JMurray@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/07
Paul Siegel	Tech. & Society, 2-8716	psiegel@sunysb.edu	9/08

Health Sciences Center:

Mary Hotaling	SHTM, 4-3223	MHotaling@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/08
Catherine Vetter	SHTM, 4-6158	CVetter@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/09

Professionals:

William Dethlefs	HSC Alumni Relations, 4-8305	wdethlefs@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/07
Mary Woodward	Procurement, 2-9849	MWoodward@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/07

Graduate Student:

Ramona Walls		rwalls@life.bio.sunysb.edu	9/07
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Undergraduate Students:

Ketty Dautruche		Ketty87@aol.com	9/07
Matthew Maiorella		mmaiorel@ic.sunysb.edu	9/07

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
2006/2007

At-Large Members:

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Catherine Horgan, SHTM, chorgan@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 4-2251

Malcolm Bowman, Marine Sciences, mbowman@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 2-8669

Muriel Weyl, (retired faculty), murielweyl@yahoo.com

Bob Aller, MSRC, raller@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 2-8746

Kathleen Weber, Kathleen.Weber.1@stonybrook.edu, 2-4887

Ana Topolovec, campus architect, atopolovec@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 4-1812

Ex officio members: Gary Kaczmarczyk, Director of Environmental Health & Safety

Administrative Contact: Barbara Chernow, AVP Facilities and Services

Facilities and Services Supporting Staff