

Plant Utilization and Planning Committee Minutes

Thursday January 14th, 2016

Tracey Olanyk Called the meeting to order at 2:35

Present: Nancy Baker, Erika Ninos, Troy Salvatore, Tracey Olanyk, Pat Weiss, Bobbi Jo Rosol, Paul Munro, John Wilds, Dan Fisher, Scott Bernotas, Owen Cooks, Paul Supowitz, Eli Shorak, Kathleen Kelly, Susanna Leers, Pat Roncevich, Ankita Mathur, Joe Newsome, Irene Frieze, Jim Becker, Russell Clark, Dave DeJong, Kristin Gusten

Minutes were approved

1. Student-led sustainability projects and initiatives: Erika Ninos, PittServes Sustainability Program Coordinator
 - a. Student Office Of Sustainability (SOOS) is about a year old and was developed by students
 - b. Purpose to allow students to collaborate and organize sustainability. Goal to infuse sustainability in the culture, values and decision making at Pitt
 - c. SOOS partners with a variety of groups to develop and implement programs.
 - d. The undergraduate students are the primary drivers of the programs implemented through SOOS
 - i. Projects currently addressed by SOOS: Thriftsburgh: Student run thrift store - selling repurposed goods; The Pitt Pantry: provides food; Sustainable solutions: students identify a sustainable issue and find an answer. Money is provided for projects; Real Food Challenge: National challenge, Pitt is the only school in Pittsburgh that competes; The Farmer's Market at Pitt: Completed first year of having a Farmer's Market; Give a Thread/Clutter for a Cause: collects clothes or materials from Residences that can be donated to community; Green Team: ensures sustainability effort during move in and throughout the year and educates incoming students; One Pitt, One Planet; Green Fund: Funds green projects across campus and help to implement and move projects along; RA Sustainability Liaisons: RAs who ensure sustainability processes are in residences; Food recovery Heroes: Works with the Pantry to recover food on campus and take it out into the community; Zero waste Pitt Initiatives: Efforts to use less across campus; Grounds for Growth: Recover coffee grounds for compost; BYO Bag: People asked to bring own bag rather than get a plastic bag. Money to buy bags goes to community; Pitt Bike Co-Op/Advocacy Group: Figure out places to put Bike Co-op. Information about Bike Care and Cycling. Question about safe biking was asked, this group and Bike Pittsburgh are working on providing students with opportunities for training to be safe riders in the city ; Fossil Free Pitt: Working toward divesting Pitt from investments in Fossil Fuels
 - e. SOOS collaborates with Facilities (Laura Zullo, Will Mitchell, Rich Heller or Andy Moran) on projects including Panther Power Down Show Down and Recyclemania. Facilities is also very involved in the Sustainable Solutions Competitions because typically students generate ideas that affect Facilities spaces. SOOS maintains a close communication with Facilities.
 - f. Future of SOOS
 - i. Full integration of Sustainability

- ii. Join Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)
 - iii. Zero Waste Events: Athletics/Major Campus Events/Greeks: Student organizations who plan green events may receive additional funding to offset costs.
 - iv. Container in Posvar for composting items
 - v. Academics: Have a degree or education in sustainability. There is a certificate in process for sustainability. Have had meetings faculty to identify ways to develop more sustainability based academics
 - vi. Sustainability at Pitt: Recent meeting to discuss options
 - g. Limited participation of graduate students with most projects (except Biking)
- 2. Update on bike lane/pedestrian safety efforts by the City: Paul Supowitz and John Wilds
 - a. Bikes lanes: City plans additional bike infrastructure. Make better connections between Forbes, Fifth, Bigelow, Bayard. Ideally will look holistically and how these will effect traffic patterns and safety of pedestrians.
 - i. Question whether can add bicycle lanes to 5th avenue
 - b. Pedestrian safety: Traffic patterns affected by bike changes. Audits have provided some suggestions for improving pedestrian safety along Bellefield. Birmingham Bridge to CMU Forbes Avenue Betterment project in 2017 should improve safety.
 - c. CMU is adding new buildings on Forbes – It will address traffic on Forbes and safety
 - d. There will be a greater police enforcement of traffic rules for both cars and bikes
 - e. The bike lane in Posvar Quad will be approved soon and potentially rolled out in spring 2016
 - f. Student housing project built by outside will be built on Arbys on Forbes within the next year. This housing is not being built by the University of Pittsburgh but by an outside company. A hotel will be built near the Skyview currently being built. These will add to congestion on Forbes.
- 3. Facilities update: Scott Bernotas/Owen Cooks/New Projects/Construction
 - a. Planning
 - i. Facilities condition assessment is underway. Identify maintenance/updating utility needs. Assessment of Effective use of space on campus
 - ii. Accessibility of Stephen Foster,
 - iii. Iranian Nationality Room,
 - iv. Accessible doors for Cathedral of Learning – Requested by EIADAC (Senate Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Discrimination Advocacy Committee)
 - b. In Design
 - i. Improve/update Trees Recreation Fields for student use
 - ii. Finnish Nationality Room
 - iii. Upgrade Food Service
 - iv. Replace electrical switchgear in Chevron- update substation
 - v. Lothrop Hall Window Restoration
 - c. Under construction
 - i. GSPH Phase II
 - ii. Replaced ring road around Allegheny Observatory
 - iii. Cathedral Elevator Modernization. Last three elevators are being completed should be done by end of May
 - iv. Sutherland Residence hall Elevator upgrades
 - d. Completed
 - i. Salk Pavilion Addition

- ii. Innovation Plaza
 - iii. Barco Green Roof
 - iv. Benedum Hall 10th Floor
 - v. Korean National Room
 - vi. GSPH Phase I
 - vii. Clapp Hall Renovation
 - viii. Helium Recovery System
4. Other Business
- a. Served over 2400 meals on December 25 to those in need. Distributed 600 gifts. 200 Gifts in Kwanza celebration

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00

Next regular meeting: March 10, 2016, 2:30 pm in 272 Hillman Library