

UNF Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2022

Call to Order

A meeting of the UNF Sustainability Committee was held on Thursday, March 10, 2022, via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Dr. Wallace Harris, Chairman.

Attendees

Dr. Wallace Harris (Chair), Physical Facilities
Kevin Anderson, Ogier Gardens
Tully Burnett, Director Business Services
Dylan Charles, Undergraduate Studies
Joseph Lachina, Chartwells
Dr. Erin Largo-Wight, Environmental Ctr. Director
Amy Lehnhoff, Procurement Services

Samantha Lento, Housing
Jordan Maiden, Energy Coordinator, PHYSFAC
Nathaniel Rodefer, Student Government
Dr. Adam Rosenblatt, Biology
William Smith, Sawmill Slough Preserve Curator
Dr. Heather Truelove, Psychology Faculty

Approval of the Minutes

Minutes from January 20, 2022, meeting was approved.

Agenda

Membership Update – No membership updates.

Dr. Harris – Discussed the start of TCO report (total cost of ownership for campus buildings). Presently looking at developing a building report card. The total cost of ownership would consist of full cost to operate a campus building, providing utilities and routine maintenance. Dr. Harris would like to produce a report annually about the cost of operating campus buildings. He anticipates publishing the first report at end of this fiscal year. Housing will not be included in this report.

Campus LED Retrofit Update – Jordan Maiden updated the committee on LED retrofit across campus, three phases – ten total buildings completed last week. Currently working on converting two parking garages to LED (44 & 38). The projected savings per year including this project and LED retrofit on campus is approximately \$160,000.00. The next phase will be doing a lighting audit of each room/building on campus and noting what type of lighting fixture is installed.

Subcommittee Updates

Operations and Logistics – Amy Lehnhoff

Procurement Services analyzed bid activity for their first year utilizing an eSourcing platform. Formerly, suppliers submitted responses via paper. Based on the number of bids, evaluation team size, and average response length, approximately 5,000 pieces of paper were submitted electronically rather than printed.

In partnership with UNF Procurement Services, the Florida Department of Management Services Office of Supplier Diversity will host the Jacksonville Supplier Diversity Exchange on campus the morning of Thursday, May 12th. The event provides training and networking for local small and diverse businesses.

The timeline for the Presidential Search was recently changed. On-campus open forums with finalists are scheduled for May 4 – 18. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to participate – to listen, ask questions, inquire of the candidates' outlook on sustainability, and complete the post-forum survey.

Education and Research – Dr. Heather Truelove

One item that's related to the Grant with NOAA and Eckerd College to reduce plastic consumption on campus. There was a Talk from the National Park Conservation Association, informative and interesting to learn how they're trying to keep plastic out of national park system. Also, a field school coming up during spring break that James Taylor will be taking students through.

Community Outreach and Student Experience – Nathaniel Rodefer

Presently working on a project to phase out plastics on campus. Based on previous general student survey, issues related to environmental, and sustainability ranked high on the list. There was a survey in January 2020, 90% of students showed interest for UNF becoming a plastic bag free campus and 92% of students expressing concern over issues for climate change. Nathaniel would like to schedule one on one meetings with each committee member for input, thoughts, and concerns regarding these issues.

Sawmill Slough Preserve – William Smith

Currently identifying areas where invasive species are located and working with various agencies to assist with the removal. Will need to do annual monitoring to ensure they don't grow back. Staff are in maintenance mode in the preserve. As it warms up snakes are coming out and coyotes have been seen in the preserve. In the spring annual maintenance, crews will start on the north side of preserve. There will probably be no control burns due to needing to have ideal weather conditions to perform. UNF will be hosting FLAPPA on March 17th and tours of the preserve on March 18th.

Member Updates:

Dr. Erin – Largo Wight – Have been working on a 2-year NOAA Grant to reduce plastic consumption with college students single use plastic consumption at UNF and Eckerd College. A lot of seminars being held, beach cleanup and research component. There are students and administration passionate and interested in reducing plastic consumption on campus.

Kevin Anderson – UNF approved as a Bee Campus USA Affiliate. Staff currently forming a subcommittee that will probably be under the sustainability committee. The committee will need to meet four times a year as a requirement to be part of the Bee Campus USA.

Joseph Lachina – The dining hall is a three-star cafeteria.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.