Minutes, September 24, 2012
Sustainability Working Group

Meeting 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM in the Apple River Room

Present: Kelly Cain, Ian Johnson, Mike Noreen, Mike Stifter, Mary Wright, Deb Schwab, Claire McCarty Kilian, Tim Thum, Jabez Meulemans, Brenda Dunse

Brief History of Last Year & Launch of 2012-13:

Sustainability slideshow presentation provided a history review of last year.

Currently the group is one student member short and waiting on a recommendation.

Campus Sustainability Day: October 24, 2012, All-day event on campus.

Showing of One Day on Earth, with a keynote broadcast to follow in the Falcon’s Nest from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM.

Possibility of an evening showing of One Day on Earth, TBD – Ian.

This will not be a huge fair more of a behind the scenes highlighting other sustainability on campus.

Student Life & SCISCD will be presenting to include; Karyn, Ian, and Jerry.

More to follow, see campus wide information.

Sustainability Incubator Initiative:

Thirteen initiatives are attached to the strategic plan. Mike Stifter was the primary author.

How do we strengthen Sustainability Faculty Fellows in terms of faculty and students, research projects, and campus and our community as a whole?

URSCA – projects similar feelings context – triple bottom line approach to sustainability.

Incubator – the word, how we identify space, entrepreneurs, etc... bring to campus brick and mortar implied contextual.

Mike Stifter community survey University, Rodli, city power plant, school district, Academy Building.
Potential new space, expansion of industrial park McKinstry work on Delander property.

City – based on Whitewater model that serves as a business incubator. The Northern part of Sterling Ponds.

Mike Noreen (City of River Falls) big bypass project out there – preference to build versus existing.

Incubator meeting is at 1:00 P.M. today to see how it fits into the initiative as space becomes available and a feasibility study will follow at 2:00 P.M. (Mike Stifter)

Need to define the boundary of projects and determine how to utilize the $12,500 for faculty & student projects in 2012-13.

Triple bottom line approach for what projects?

How to determine who gets what? How many fellows eligible?

Seven to eight undergraduate fellows are institute funded.

What comes out of incubator group will then go through faculty fellows.

Language draft - to get to the 1:00 P.M. group this afternoon.

Sustainability Faculty Fellows meeting recap from Friday: faculty introduced themselves and their projects, brief review of last year, naming of the project – the group liked Kinninnick; it is place based, Chemistry meaning – English holistic...rational definition. We are starting the third curriculum year... passing the baton. Two people - to go to Emory, incubator initiative project. There are two faculty; Business and Chemistry, interested in mentoring students that already have projects in mind. (Mary Wright)

SLOP - Robyn Murray would like to be on subcommittee.

Faculty Fellows is planning to meet once a month and the subcommittees will meet more frequently as needed.

**UWRF Sustainability Across the Curriculum:**

Allocation of $50,000 with $30,000 available to fund for successful Faculty Fellows curriculum development and approval and for 3rd Annual Sustainability Across the Curriculum Spring Workshop. (Mary Wright)

One year behind on budget, faculty finishing, and funding come through following the successful development of the course. Mary stated that Robyn Murray addressed the
Faculty fellows group on Friday and would like a subcommittee to work on faculty funding.

SLOP – Sustainability Learning Outcomes Project Abstract (see p 2) of the agenda.

**Sustainability Series on Innovation & Excellence – October 3:** (see p 2)

Innovation and excellence – St. Croix Room in the University Center is expecting 50 attendees. SWG is the presenter and the topic is campus sustainability.

How do we give the audience a strong sense of where we are at and where we are going?

Ian & Kelly made a presentation this summer with 71 slides, some of which can be pulled together for the SIE presentation. Looking for the presentation to take about 30 minutes, and followed by a question and answer period. Many ideas and suggestions were mentioned that could be included in SIE, the preliminary slide that covers the Sustainability strategy, the History page that was put together by Carol Wilcox with extensive research. Both the Sustainability Campus-Community Plan and the Climate Action Plan passed the Faculty Senate June, 2012. Our Climate Action plan is one of the most aggressive in the nation.

What is the audience going to be interested in?

There is a broad range of sustainability on campus, classified staff could be highlighted with green cleaning, broad range of sustainability.

SWG re-organization, sustainability definitions, and proclamations.

The ACUPCC site lists UWRF as one of 3 or 4 campuses that has a carbon footprint history that goes back to 1990; this is data to be proud of.

Faculty Fellows and across curriculum – SLOP

WeCar is an hourly car rental program through Enterprise, it is expected to arrive on campus today or tomorrow. This program is membership based and is reserved and paid for online. This service is available for all of the campus community and international students with a driver’s license and is at least 18 years or older. (Jerry Waller)

Zim ride – riders and drivers use a system similar to Facebook, it is a commuter car sharing program.
Jabez Meulemans discussed the Just local program and the large tent event that was held the first week of September. This was the second event that showcased local businesses buying and selling products – vendors there were 30 vendors this year. Karyn did flyers.

We bike River Falls – (Ian, Jabez, Karyn and Student Life) The group organizes community rides and educates the community on the rights and responsibility of the road for bicyclists. Notes and emails are used to coordinate group activities; in the summer there are community rides, and in the winter maintenance and safety clinics.

Mother & Son bike workshop with the YMCA and Hudson schools, reaches out to the community teaching how bicycling is a viable form of transportation around the community. (Ian & Jabez)

The list of Sustainability activities that could be added the presentation is many, the Go Buy Local project, the National Wildlife Refuge, Eco-Village, Graduation Pledge Alliance, Powerful Choices, Cascade Avenue.

Photos of the New Residence Hall could be added to the slide show which can be scrolling as folks are entering and having lunch.

Claire agreed to represent Faculty Fellows with piece of the presentation and including the photos from the past two workshops.

Kelly will draft a script in the next few days

Triple bottom line the reason why we are doing this.

Anyone have any other questions.

**Sustainability Working Group:**

Tentatively it looks like Monday’s 3:30 P.M. – 4:30 P.M. every two – three weeks? This group sets the agenda for what we want to push through, low –no cost items to big dollar items.

Statement in position statement formal sustainability responsibility, budget request process meetings every other week looking forward to the year.

**Other 2013 Objectives**