Minutes, November 5, 2012
Sustainability Working Group

Meeting 3:30 AM – 4:30 PM in the Apple River Room

Present: Kelly Cain, Mike Stifter, Dean Olson, Charlie Rader, Jerry Waller, Tim Thum, Jabez Meulemans, Mike Noreen, Deb Schwab, Molly Breitmun, Brenda Dunse

Introductions and welcome: Welcome Molly, this is her first official meeting. Molly is conservation major with GIS experience, she has worked on organic farms and been a part of intentional communities Molly is a great addition to the group!

Approve Previous Minutes: Jerry moved to approve the minutes of October 8, 2012 and Tim second the minutes.

WeCar Update: A business use agreement is being worked on that will allow the use of a Procard. This is a new layer of business that Enterprise has not used before. When registering online with WeCar indicate if your travel is for personal or business use.

SALSA Update: SALSA is screening fresh tonight at 7:00 P.M. SALSA now has a garden space on campus and are working on growing pesticide free.

Powerful LED Business Program Update: River Falls businesses are offered ten LED lights in four choices to test and see what they like. After a month through focus on energy they can use a rebate bringing the cost of a $30 bulb with a $10 focus on energy rebate matched by River Falls for an additional savings of $10 leaving the business to incur only $10 per bulb of the original cost. It is a method to get the LEDs in businesses. City council approved powerful choices, forty four page report. In March a workshop with an advisory board to educate the elected officials about the Powerful Choices program.

Green Building & Design Magazine: A representative of Green Building & Design Magazine is doing a feature story on the Ames Project that will be out in either the May/June or July/Aug issue.

Ames LEED Gold Status: The project has been submitted with 61 points. The anticipated return is December 31. Also, the one year energy measurement and verification for the building is underway.

Electricity Class: In the classroom did a lighting analysis utilizing LED light bulbs. Although the purchase price of the LED bulb was more expensive it was the cheapest one to operate.
**Master in Sustainability:** Do the projects always tie back to a curricular opportunity? Hearing back from Madison – there are overlaps in curriculum between campuses that were submitted last September. If the rules are changing we may not need everything that was on the original list.

**Other Sustainability Events and Topics:**

Op Ed piece was published in UW System’s Hotlink - Sustainability News Letter.

EcoVillage was presented in LA as a Sustainability learning facility.

WPPI – Jefferson Project is a large photovoltaic project with a power purchase buy back close to one mega-watt of power. The project would consume the whole WPPI. If the project does not go through UWRF is in second place. All is waiting on clarification from Jefferson. It is a very good power purchase agreement.

REI in Massachusetts has a parking lot that is covered in photovoltaic panels. Covered walkways have been talked about to cut down on snow removal.

**Sustainability at a glance marketing flyer:** Communications is working on sustainability piece that can be used with Facebook, u-tube, and twitter feeds. This is an opportunity to toot our horn.

On the first page of the flier, note that students are paying for electricity with green block; Residence Halls are 100% student funded and the UC is 44-56% student funded.

Second page with the links (should this be left on or not) Communications added the pictures and header.

Kelly would like to get rid of the top picture with the windmill being UWRF does not have one. It suggested taking a photo in front of Ames Suites/LLC to capture the photovoltaic panels. Send any pictures or photo opportunities to Kelly.

**Sustainability Coordinator Meeting in LaCrosse:** Kelly and Ian attended this was an opportunity for coordinators to come together. It was questions as to who was the first to audit environmental, Oshkosh claimed they are since 2008, Ian and Kelly are sure UWRF is since 2007.

**Sustainability Incubator Initiative – Draft RFP:** Demonstrate and articulate possible positive economic impact on City of River Falls, and River Falls School District. Student/faculty research teams to provide the environmental, social, and financial beneficial on both short and long term. There have been lengthy discussions on how to frame and various options have been looked at. How should monies be split? A maximum of $5,000 awarded to any one team and
rating by impact good projects but may not have the desired impact. Criteria – student and/or student have to receive half of the money applied for with the balance being used for the faculty stipend, supplies and expenses. There will be a committee and Kelly will be removed from the committee. Will need to get the RFP out by November 7, 2012, a one month turn around, and be announced before finals. Selected teams for funding are to present in the fall at the Sustainability Community Forum. What is the optimum way to get this to students? Email is not an option, Student Voice is one method, and Falcon Daily – faculty will need to share the information with their students. When is funding going to be available? Summer scholars program – used bulletin boards. Talk to Dan Semi D2L- Facebook page. Projects can count for academic credit too. Two faculty can work on one project – add another signature line & plural. It could be a student team. The larger the team the thinner the funds get spread. Groups can apply; formal faculty and mentor are needed. Strategic plan initiatives are having to report monthly and the initiative gets out there is campus interest. The stipend will be paid through payroll and subject to deductions.

**New Business Park:** two to three meetings McKinstry work inspired could be formalized in a new industrial park.