



# SUSTAINABILITY ACTION FUND COMMITTEE

Friday, February 10th, 2017, 8:00 AM. VU 462B

- Members:** *Present: Mary Moeller (ASVPfor Business and Operations), Greg McBride (Assistant Director of Viking Union Facilities), Anna Kemper (Environmental & Sustainability Programs Director), Johnathan Riopelle (Sustainable Action Fund Grant Coordinator), Jasmine Goodnow (Faculty Representative), Keiko Betcher (AS Sustainable Action Fund Education Coordinator), and Izzy Juell (Student at Large).*  
*Absent: Wayne Rocque (ASVPfor Student Life), Seth Vidana (Sustainability Manager for Wester), Kristen Tarr (Student at Large).*
- Advisor:** Greg McBride
- Secretary:** Cora Cole
- Guests:** Arthur Preston (Project Lead for Project Refill), Whitaker Jameson (Project Lead for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations), and Spiridon Pappas (Project member for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations).

*Vice Chair, Mary Moeller, called the meeting to order at 8:07 am.*

**I. Introductions**

**II. Amendment to agenda:**

- a. There was an added discussion item by Arthur Preston.
- b. Because Wayne Rocque was absent the committee did not reach quorum and decided to hold the vote regarding the proposals via email later in the day.

**III. Discussion Items**

- a. **Water Bottle Filling Station Update:** Arthur Preston introduced himself and began by discussing his concerns surrounding lead contamination of water on campus. He handed around some documents addressing the issue, the secretary requested digital copies, he at the time of completion of minutes had not submitted them. The documents included sample testing showing 650 ppb on campus, we above the EPA's recommendation There was also an article discussing the dangerous nature of lead contamination in reference to the nation at large and Western's campus in particular. Arthur Preston then went on to discuss the project which he was working on diligently. He noted some trouble with finalizing location of refill stations with the administration and then asked for questions. Mary asked how he had heard about the lead levels, he said that he had been talking to plumbers on campus while working on the project and they had brought it to his attention. The greatest risk is with the older buildings as newer buildings on campus don't have lead sauder, eliminating their risks. Greg asked if he had talked to the Facilities and Services Committee, the student health center, or Greg himself, Arthur said that he had talked to the committees and

would be willing to talk to Greg and Mary later. Professor Goodnow asked if the signs in Bond Hall indicating that water was below the EPA's amount were accurate. Arthur said yes but that the EPA number was pretty arbitrary anyway, he then left to attend a class.

*Arthur Preston left at 8:22 AM.*

- b. Summer Meetings got tabled until the next meeting.**

#### **IV. Guest Speakers**

##### **a. Charging station Group: Whitaker Jameson**

Proposal involves creating up to up to 3 electric vehicle charging stations and then installing them in lot 12A and monitoring them. The lot is near the C lots, and currently contains faculty parking. The total budget would be between \$55,000-\$85,000. The installation is the most expensive part coming in between \$30,000 and \$60,000, because of the group's uncertainty regarding the cost for the installation the end numbers have a pretty wide range. The electricity would be \$10,000 per year and Maintenance would be less than \$1,000. There is an anonymous donor who has put forward \$5,000 for the fund, which makes the end cost for the Fund lower. He then passed around documentation with the cost estimate and outlined plan. 73% of surveyed students supported the project in a voluntary campus wide survey. The spots would be open to anyone on campus and have a moderately accessible route to campus, although the walk is long and the path is partially gravel. Other universities have implemented similar policies in high traffic areas. The enforcement for parking violations would be similar to the existing enforcements on campus. If you have a c-lot pass already then you can get a free pass for parking in the charging station. The time-period for charging would be between 2-4 hours and Parking Services would be able to treat that parking area differently than the rest of C-lot. They feel that this is fair because it ties into the University Sustainability Goals and the policy will also be updating as it goes. The electricity estimate had 30 charging hours a day but it won't be that high early-on in the project and they will be working with Bob in Parking Services to find out what works best for our campus. The committee will vote on the conceptual application via email and then we will see the final proposal sometime in the next couple months.

#### **V. Action Item**

- a. John Francis to WWU:** Julia Henson brought up her presentation on John Francis, a long time environmental activist, and the educational merit of hearing him present. The budget is pretty big because the ESC has an environmental budget but the costs of John Francis Speaker fees is higher and so they would like to have the SAF donate \$11,400 for speaker fee, per-diem, and on ground transportation. The cost will be offset by a \$2 cost for students (\$1 coming back to SAF) and \$6 cost for non-students (\$5 coming back to SAF). Mary asked where the number for the per diem came from or if it was cross referenced, Greg said that because the per diem is contractual (requested by John Francis) it is not beholden to the general university policy and then reminded the committee is here to approve the ideas behind the grants and decide whether they are appropriate things to fund with student fees. The technical aspect of the proposals is the job of administrative workers not students. Mary pointed out that the students were the leadership of the committee and the elected representatives of the people who

paid for admin salary and the fund itself. The conceptual application is up for approval via email following the meeting,

- b. A Change of Course:** Julia said that the panel coming to campus for the event will be showcasing different kinds of environmental activism. The Total cost before additional funding is \$16,350 and the other offices helping with the project are giving a total of \$7,150. This leaves a request of the SAF of \$9,200. She asked if there were any questions about the budget or speakers that had come up since last meeting. Mary asked for a very quick overview. Anna said that there will be workshops on White Fragility and Pipeline Resistance in the morning and in the evening the panel will hold a discussion. JU1 McIntyre-Witt will not be paid a speaker fee because she teaches at Huxley but may be given a \$500 honorarium, (vest. Campus Sustainability Plan) The goal is to show the rest of the campus how sustainability involves many different perspectives and social and cultural sustainability as well. Greg said that the project is a tier one proposal, which is a one time cost. The conceptual application is up for approval via email following the meeting.

Johnathan Riopelle then addressed the context of the Project Refill situation. Arthur was permitted to speak before the committee by Wayne, Seth, and Johnathan. In the past he has occupied Seth's office and has voiced concerns about the water safety on campus. There were 5 faucets on campus that fell under the EPA 15 ppb standard and campus has been working to fix that, more slowly than Arthur would like. Johnathan said that the issue for the committee is: what is the process through which individuals engage with the process of the SAF? Or how do we handle people who do not follow the regulations for Grant proposals? Arthur has no team members who are not contracted, as is required, and no advisor, as is required. He has refused the help and contact of Seth and Johnathan who are here in order to make sure that the projects run smoothly and effectively, without breaking policy. Johnathan is concerned that this individual has tried to circumvent the process as it currently stands, and when we have committee quorum we will need to discuss how to deal with that.

*Mary Moeller Adjourned the meeting at 8:59 AM.*