**MINUTES**

**President’s Council on Sustainability**

**Meeting of February 14th, 2025 4pm**

Present: Kate Stoneman, Kevin Caffrey, Eric Bonds, Diana Binette, Lia Fowler, George March, Jeremy Larochelle, Bethanie Hackett, Mary Becelia, Amy Filiatreau, Lauren Pilcher, Sushma Subramanian, Brian Ogle, Brenda Togo, Morgan Galusha, Amira Said, Melissa Vaughan

**Welcome Backs/New Member Introduction**

**Climate Action Plan Update/Status**

Brenda Togo wants to bring in a consultant group for reporting environmental information on campus. They would set up the infrastructure and the school would continue with it. There is $4 million in Senate and House of Representative budget for UMW energy efficiency. Eric Bonds would like to see that directed towards closing building envelopes. This money could be allocated towards bringing in a consultant.

**Charging Station Update**

Lauren Pilcher says there’s been an issue with getting an inspection done, which is why the opening has been delayed.

**Youth Climate Action Summit Update**

Eric Bonds wants everyone to spread the word about the event. It is occurring between Friday and Saturday (2/21 – 2/22). There will be an Office of Sustainability table at the event.

**PCS Subcommittee Updates**

**1.Finance/Sustainability**

No updates.

**2.Curricular/Academic**

Alan Griffith shared an article about infusing sustainability and pedagogy. Brian Ogle has researched what other universities have done around centers for sustainability. Brenda Togo is researching a way to let people get in contact with the Office of Sustainability about starting sustainability projects.

**3.Student Engagement**

The subcommittee discussed creating a renewable energy petition for students to show their support towards sustainability on campus. The committee also discussed partnering with the Office of Sustainability on planning Earth Day and bringing back the sustainable swap.

**4.Composting**

No Updates.

**Guest: Amira Said – Campus Community Composting**

Amira Said met with Cat Carter from Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR) to talk about creating a composting program for Fredericksburg. People would pay for a subscription, receive a bucket, and FOR would go and pick up the buckets and drop off the compost at Rappahannock Education farm. Amira wants Sodexo to use composted utensils when their dishwashers break and be a part of the composting program. The program is hopefully starting in March. Amira wants composting bins placed next to all the trash and recycling bins. There is a COAR compost program in place, but it is not receiving continuous volunteers to take care of the compost bins. Melissa Vaughan discusses that the volume of food waste needs to be allocated to the facilities composting area and have educational composting on campus.

Amira suggests PCS can table during ASPIRE week (4/16).

**Updates:**

UMW is trying to get recognition in the Princeton Review.

Wild and Scenic Film Festival on Saturday March 15th.

Diana Binette applied to the IMPACT grant for getting a solar panel umbrella.

The UBAC is recommending the PCS budget application to the BOV.

Brenda Togo says there will be an upcoming meet and great for sustainable and environmental clubs and organizations.

Meeting adjourned at 5:02