

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY SENATE
University Environment Committee
Meeting of October 13, 2021, 1:00 PM EDT
Online meeting (Zoom)

Attendees: Tom Wilson, Dan Amarante, Tiffany Friedman, Susan Glodstein, Gary Kaczmarczyk, Clifford Knee, Michelino Puopolo, Federick Walter, Joanna Kaczorowska, Claran Joel Martis, Richard Stein, Sarah Battaglia, Divleen Singh, Henry Edmondson, Trevor Kapuvvari, , Mona Ramonetti, Malcolm Bowman

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:06 pm EDT.

2. Introductions of committee members

3. Consideration of minutes-Motion to accept minutes. Sarah made a motion to accept Dan seconds. Minutes accepted.

4. Chair Report

Tom Wilson has made all of the minutes and reports available on the public google drive folder-environment committee archives.

Tom attended a meeting of the newly reformed administrative parking advisory committee. He was provided with a copy of a report from parking consultant Materials from this meeting. Those who attended were asked not to share the information outside of the meeting, Tom will be discussing this issue with the Senate executive since being asked not to share materials is in conflict with the goal of shared governance.

The parking department wants to move towards market rate parking. Discussed that all faculty at HSC must pay for parking. However, isn't parking part of our negotiated union benefits?

5. Brainstorming projects for the upcoming year-

-General transportation issues

-Pedestrian and cycling

Tiffany discusses how do people cross Circle Road safely as there is no biking area in parts. Fred Walters reports this is an old issue that biking from West Campus to hospital is an issue. There are reports on this in archives. Thomas said to identify issue and communicate this in reports so when there is money available we are ready to submit the request for funds or "primed the pump" in talking to a transportation dept.

View obstructing mound on North Campus Circle was an issue but was removed after Environment Committee brought this up.

Plan to update the top 3 priorities for Bicycle and pedestrian safety.

Mona Ramonetti said she is concerned about walkers on the same path as bikers since the pandemic. There should be designation which side is for bikers vs. pedestrians/walkers.

Clifford Knee reports there will be a meeting with Campus operations, maintenance, and campus design to discuss this safety issue. Students want to ride bikes from Research and Dev. Park to main campus as well. Need to make a policy.

Does UPD have a report on bicycle/pedestrian accidents? Do other safety departments: campus residence, hospital?

Alternative modes of transportation-will remove this for now since no one working on this

Accessibility curb cuts-Gary K is working with the disability committee. Bring to his attention if any are missing

Campus master energy plan-Dan and Claran
Cogen status? Contract ending soon.

What will be the cost of having solar panels on campus to generate energy and cut costs? How efficient are buildings on campus? Could buses on campus be green- hybrid or electric?

Past years have invited energy experts to talk and answer questions. Tom Lanzilotta will be invited to come speak to the committee to discuss hot points and have a discussion with the committee.

Malcolm Bowman makes a suggestion to have solar panels on the roof of a building and have this power the fountains to teach the students something.

Limits to growth-look in archives from 2012-2022 Campus Master Plan which is illuminating to see the ways the campus was thinking

Malcolm Bowman:

The property has to be able to meet the needs of the huge population of our campus.

- 1.Exceeding limits of the LI Sound to absorb wastewater.
2. We have to manage the perimeter of the property.
3. Increased paving and removal of trees. If we aren't careful with the management of the campus, it will be a big parking lot. Preservation of the natural environment.

Suggestion: write a document to address the limits to growth

Clifford Knee said that there are limits to growth...that this information is looked at everyday.

Question: What can this committee do to have impact or add to this conversation? How can the campus be more sustainable and efficient? Acknowledge that resources are limited.

Two years ago the Univ Senate passed an amendment for the Ashley Schiff Woods to be a Preservation site.

Thomas Wilson wants to talk to the Univ President about preservation for this site and to write legislation to add this to the state parks system.

Art performance in the Ashley Schiff Woods-faculty and students who are interested in preserving the woods.

East Recharge Basin-need a student to analyze the data set.

Marine Conservation and Parks-can find someone to do this-Malcolm looking into this.

Best Practices-if anybody sees interesting stories or idea, of how things are being done at other places...send this to other committee members

Recycling-Henry working on writing this up

6. Experts to invite over the year-
-Tom Lanzillota

7. Open discussion of the covid pandemic

8. Other business

9. New Business
Earth stock-Earth day

Next meeting 11/10

Motion to adjourn made by Malcolm.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm

Minutes taken by Susan Glodstein