

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY SENATE

Campus Environment Committee

Meeting of January 11, 2023, 1:00-2:30 pm
Virtual meeting on Zoom.

Attendance: Thomas Wilson, Tiffany Friedman, Chris Sellers. Malcolm Bowman, Giacinto Piacquadio, Mona Ramonetti.

Thomas Wilson went straight into the agenda.

Chris- updates about the energy plan working group included trying to get in touch with Sustainability and Energy department. When he finally did get in touch with them he found out that the energy department planned to present the energy plan to the University Senate themselves. The energy department did not tell the working group when they would present or what they would say. The energy working group is now on hold and is not in a position to contribute to the presentation.

Thomas- did speak to the energy department and saw that the presentation was ready to go to the University Senate. He still would like to report our feedback on the energy plan when it's the environment committee's presentation date.

Giacinto- pointed out that the energy department had a meeting in December that promised material but didn't see that material. Chris said that the energy department did provide the material and he will send it out.

Thomas- saw that the energy department had a powerpoint and Richard Larson recommended they move things around but the content was ready for presentation. Once the presentation is given we can respond with our recommendations. Chris wanted to know if costs were included or any changes but Thomas said that the presentation looked much the same as what was shown to the environment committee.

Chris- encouraged the committee to continue to question the energy plan going forward and press them to provide a date.

Thomas- believes that the presentation is going to happen very quickly and we need to respond to it in writing or verbally.

Next topic:

Thomas- Ashley Schiff working group composed of Tiffany, Nick and Thomas. The title of the presentation is The Case for the Ashley Schiff preserve 1970-2023. Would like to present it by March 6th University Senate meeting. The presentation will describe the preserve, the justification for keeping it wild or natural, and discuss the history over the last 53 years. We gathered a lot of info but it isn't easy to find or scattered. He would like to take all the relevant

documents and put it together as appendixes and put it on the Ashley Schiff website. We still have some needs:

- Statements that document 14 other SUNY campuses have natural preserves. Someone has to find and make a list. Malcolm may have a student who found that info and will find that.
- Old Colonial road in the Ashley Schiff- Tiffany wasn't able to locate it. Chris thinks there is something available in Special Selection. Mona will check with the library. There is a marker identifying Mount Rd. bordering the west side of campus as part of the Old Colonial Road.
- 3k students signed a petition to protect the Preserve. Could it be published or is it a violation of privacy rights? The committee agreed it is not a violation of rights because it's just names and no other identifiers. Also, historically the petition changed SBU President Shirley Kenny's mind about how students felt about the preserve.
- Engelbright tried to create legislation about Ashley Schiff in Albany. Have Bob Aller researching what happened. Trying to avoid a repeat of what happened 10 years ago.

Next- Senate presentation update:

February is busy with academic integrity issues raised by using the artificial intelligence utility ChatGPT to write papers. Richard Larson and Richard Stein will let us present on March 6th for 20 minutes. Thomas showed the preliminary presentation he put together where all topics that the committee has been working on are showcased. The Ashley Schiff presentation will also contain a video and a resolution to be voted on.

- The senate will vote on the resolution at the meeting so the president can be on record with her decision. Previous presidents refused to tie the hands of future presidents.
- Tiffany- asked about who was the authority to approve the preserve. Thomas said will look at the other SUNY colleges to see who approved their preserves. One possibility is to add it to the state park system.

No old business

New business- covid causing issues so Thomas encourage mask wearing

Meeting adjourned

Notes prepared by Tiffany Friedman