Sustainability Charter Committee

Friday, April 24, 2015

1:30 PM

University Services Building Room 202

AGENDA

1. Call to order – Art Bettis and Brian Thompson, Co-chairs
2. Proposed Solar Project Update – Don Guckert
3. Iowa City Climate Marchers’ Demands – Barbara Eckstein
4. Eco Hawks Program Update – Eric Holthaus
5. Next meeting and adjournment

Attachment: Iowa City People’s Climate March, list of demands

Sustainability Charter Committee

April 24, 2015

- Meeting Minutes –

MEMBERS/LIAISONS PRESENT: Art Bettis, Liz Christiansen, Don Guckert, Andrew Hirst,

Dawn Kluber, Sara Maples, Sarah Nagengast, Wilfrid Nixon, Christine Rutledge-Russell,

Marty Shafer, Brian Thompson

OTHERS PRESENT: Shawn Albaugh Kleppe, Barbara Eckstein, Eric Holthaus, Jeff Landgren

PROPOSED SOLAR PROJECT UPDATE

An update to the UI Solar Energy Initiative was presented. This initiative proposes installation of 1.2 MW of solar PV be installed on the roofs of the Main Library, Water Plant, Campus Recreation and Wellness Center, Madison Street Services Building and the University Services Building as part of the 10-year contract with the preferred vendor for all kWh the system produces. As the end of the 10 years, the UI can buy back the system and receive free electricity for the life of the panels, which is approximately 10-15 years (minus operations and maintenance costs).

In a response for due diligence, additional impacts to this initiative are being investigated. These include roof repairs, equipment servicing, operations, and evaluation of alternate locations that might be better candidates.

Discussion included project timeline and the tax credits that this is being driven by, evaluation of capital costs per kilowatt, base materials and how they will be disposed of and the whole life cycle of these units.

IOWA CITY CLIMATE MARCHERS’ DEMANDS

Dr. Barbara Eckstein, representing four community environmental organizations, addressed the committee about the Climate March and the actions respectfully requested of the University of Iowa to help address the present climate emergency.

Discussion included what this particular committee can do, such as being proactive and having representation on the commission that has been developed by this local coalition, and what message could be taken back.

ECO HAWKS PROGRAM UPDATE

An update on the Eco Hawks Program was given. The total enrollment at this time is 387 with a goal of 1,000 by the end of the year. This represents 80 buildings on campus.

Discussion included goals that have been identified and ideas for visibility.

NEXT MEETING

May 15, 2015 from 1:30 – 3:00 in room 202 USB.