

Kalamazoo Valley Community College  
Sustainability Committee  
04.12.2024

Present: D. Alexander; R. Bair; J. Breeding; H. Fish; R. Higginbotham; D. Lancaster; V. McCann; B. McElhone;  
G. Pestun; N. Rickey; C. Schauer

Absent: R. Brill; K. Fuchs; K. Lewis; T. Shane; T. Sypris

Dannie welcomed Dave Lancaster to the committee.

Notes from 10.20.2023 were approved; motion by Bill; support from Jeremy.

- **Update**

- Events Scheduled

- Blight pull: Initiative Lead: Cynthia Schauer

- Fri, 4.19, 2 – 4, meet lower level of library
- Purpose to remove invasives to promote healthy forests
- Promotional materials/avenues out
- Hoping to attract more participants this year
- ? competition next year
- Discussion re: invasive vines
  - Dannie to follow up w/Sarah Thomas re: name of vine

- Recycling Initiative Lead: Nathan Rickey

- Fri, 4.19, 1-4, northwest corner of parking lot
- Reasons to offer
  - Supports KVCC commitment to sustainability
  - Promotes internal engagement
  - Electronics has been done for long time
  - KVCC generates significant amount of Styrofoam
  - Community outreach
- Promotional materials/avenues out
- 2 of 3 volunteer shifts full
- Green Earth Electronics recycling good to go
- Collected materials will go to plant in Mason for repurposing
- Cynthia to forward language re: 4.19 event to ALC for dissemination

- Future Events

- Recycling

- No longer collaborating with the City
  - Outside of city limits
- Will
  - Hold in Spring and Fall

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- Reach out to Texas, Oshtemo and Kalamazoo Counties; City of Portage, Groves partners
- Composting at TTC (currently in place at FIC)
  - Greg to follow up My Green Michigan re: demo/providing info
  - Per Rachel
    - Good opportunity for community partnership
    - Clean stream mandated
    - Recommendation to practice on consumer end for several weeks
      - Summer would be good time frame to practice
    - Will need awareness campaign and much education
    - Dannie will follow up w/Aramark re: their participation
- **Communication/Marketing Task Force**
  - Meeting minutes attached
    - Developing messaging/mechanisms to get word out re: sustainability at KVCC and Sustainability Committee efforts
    - Examples
      - LED light conversion project
        - Cost savings on bulbs; overall energy
      - Blight pull and recycling benefits
      - Charging stations
        - Current stations approaching capacity
          - Per Dannie, moving forward with project for additional stations
      - Recipient of 2023 Clean Energy Award from Consumers
      - Consumers 2025 Contract
        - KVCC committing to saving \$xx of use on Earth Action Days
        - Will receive rebates with or without reaching goal
        - Anticipate \$25-30K savings via participating in program,
    - Mechanisms
      - Digital displays
      - Newsletters
      - Direct messaging relative to specific projects
      - Website presence
- **Educational Options**
  - WMU Climate Action Group
    - Cynthia reviewed connection/collaboration possibility with WMU Climate Action Group
      - Wide range of options for KVCC participation
    - Dannie/Rachel/Cynthia to meet re: establishing connection with group

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- En-ROADS demo
  - Veronica reviewed En-ROADS software program
    - Designed for use as a simulator and educational tool
      - Can look at different factors affected by climate change and the impact on economics, energy management, etc.
  - ? KVCC participation in En-ROADS simulation event
  - Discussion re: connecting with Gaming Club (Sustainability night)
  - Veronica to complete training this summer/share in the fall
- **Future Meetings**
  - Discussion re: have next meeting during fall Summit as open session
    - Dannie to follow up

Meeting was adjourned.