

Library Environmental Committee Minutes: Tuesday, March 22nd, 2011

Present: Michelle Allen, Hsiang Ping Cha, Susan Kendall, Elida Marti, Kriss Ostrom, Heidi Schroeder, Mike Unsworth. Absent: Susie Garmo, Stephanie Perentesis

Chair: Susan Kendall Recorder: Elida Marti

Smart Commute: Mike informed about this year's activities. They are still being determined by the Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council. Kriss said that the sponsorship for last year was \$100.-. As for this year's figure, Mike is waiting for an answer from the organizers. The event is scheduled to take place sometime in June.

Review of Chili cook-off: Kriss reported that staff LSA board members reminded staff to recycle plastic bowls as they were leaving. We only pulled about 6 plastic bowls out of the trash. Thanks to Hsiang Ping for rinsing all the bowls before we placed them in the plastic recycling bins and to Don Bosman for washing all the flatware! In conjunction with LSA Board members, Kriss is looking for US-made glass or heavy plastic bowls to purchase for future chili, soup, or ice cream events, which can be washed and used into the future. We have a big supply of styrofoam bowls, which will be used for the 2011 ice cream social. Because the potential toxins in styrofoam are most dangerous when used for hot foods, LSA will not use styrofoam for hot food or drinks in the future.

Earth Day Events: Wednesday, April 20th and Thursday, April 21st Susan is preparing the exhibit for Earth Day. Hsiang Ping volunteered to send reminders to the staff about the events. April 20th: Heidi will be in charge of the games helped by other LEC volunteers and will send a reminder to library staff. April 21st: Hsiang Ping will introduce Peter Carrington at the Beal Garden tour and will send out a reminder on Monday 4/18 and the morning of the tour.

Other upcoming events for the semester: -Thursday, April 14, 3:30 pm : Student book collection competition. Cliff announced in the April 5 Staff meeting that this event is cancelled. - Thursday, April 21, 3:30 pm : Faculty book reception. Mike and 3 more members will assist with recycling at these events. It was agreed that LEC won't plan events for summer 2011 but will begin planning fall semester events in June. Mike said that the MSU Bikes Center may be sponsoring some bike commuter activities in May.

New Library Employee checklist and introduction to MSU Environmental Stewardship: Kriss said that Heather will update the forms and the HR intranet site when she has time, when EBS allows. In the meantime, she will make sure to give supervisors the correct checklist.

LEC wiki. Kriss preparing a list of items that can be recycled. Kriss brought the list of recyclable items to be put in the "plastic/metal" bins as well as paper to be put in the "mixed paper boxes ." Discussion followed. It was agreed that the list would be included in the wiki after some adjustments.

Granger tour for the future: It was agreed to postpone the Granger tour for another occasion. Kriss suggested a tour of MSU Surplus instead, which observation of sorting of recyclables. It

was agreed for some time in June. Michelle will organize it. Michelle spoke about “Project Zero waste.” The staff area of the Business Library is the first participant, which we hope will eventually spread campus-wide.

Ecogram for the month: Susan will send a reminder about RecycleRama and Kriss will send out the list of ALL the items that can be recycled in plastic, metal, and mixed paper.