

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY SENATE
University Environment Committee
Meeting of September 15, 2021, 1:00 PM EDT
Online meeting (Zoom)

Attendees: Thomas Wilson, Tiffany Friedman, Susuan Glodstein, Gary Kaczmarczyk, Michelino Puopolo, Federick Walter, Joanna Kaczorowska, Claran Joel Martis, Richard Stein, Sarah Battaglia, Divleen Singh, Henry Edmondson, Trevor Kapuvvari, Ashani Escoffery, Daniel Amarante, Mona Ramonetti, Heidi Hutner, Chris Sellers

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm EDT.

Introductions of committee members

Senate by-laws require chairs to be elected yearly so Wilson called for nominations. Since there were no nominations made Wilson will continue to serve for another year.

Motion to accept minutes: Walter commented about previous minutes stating that he observed the field hospital coming down.

Ramonetti motioned to approve minutes and it was seconded by Amarante and therefore adopted

Brainstorming projects: members will work on the projects in small groups and bring them back to the group. Who will do the projects and what will they do?

- Transportation: Parking advisory board meeting is 9/16/21. Sellers would like to be part of the transportation issues.
- Environmental aspects of telecommuting and remote work. Remote work moved to a pilot telecommuting policy at the University. It's suggested the UUP make this part of their contract negotiations.
- We discussed telecommuting policy which is still confusing to faculty of who could take advantage of it and whether it really is a policy.
- Pedestrian and parking safety: better bike routes around campus if you are coming from east to west campus there is a disconnect from one campus to the other. There is no bike path that connects the two campuses. There are also no sidewalks and no shoulder so there is an issue for bikers. The University previously said the cost was too high to fix. Will the bikers share the sidewalks or the road?
- Goal: recommendation will be made in a subcommittee for improvement of bike paths. Ramonetti, Friedman, Escoffery, Edmondson and Walter volunteered to be a part of looking into the bike safety issue.
- Other issues: alternative modes of transportation, improving the lirr and buses, etc. For curb cuts- Kaczmarczyk would like it to be brought to his attention specifically what area are missing them

Efficiency, recycling and liveability:

- Campus master energy plan- Martis, Amarante, and Sellers. Communication and signage is missing. Information online is not up-to-date. Outdoor trash bins starts to blow around campus so improvement is needed for outdoor trash bins.
- Recycling on campus: distribution of recycling and finding areas underserved- Edmondson interested with help of another person.
- Limits to growth- putting aside topic until Malcolm Bowman can add insight but Friedman, Walter, Martis, Kapuvari are also interested.
- Campus gardens- no interest

Best practices and research group

In the past this group was responsible for discussing divesting from fossil fuels.

Natural environment and preservation group:

- Protected by the word of the previous presidents but no formal preservation plan in place yet.
- Current president states that she would like to beautify the campus but it is unclear what that means in building policy

East recharge basin near Mendelsohn

- Flooded during the recent hurricane
- Have to retrieve instrument from the lake
- Need students to help with analyses of data

Open discussion about pandemic

- Wilson will bring questions to the University Senate about covid
- Who is enforcing masking

Without further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany Friedman