Environmental Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes for February 27th, 2012

I. Call to order: Chair Christine calls meeting to order at 4:37PM.

II. Roll Call
   Members Present: Corrie Christine, Jerry Chang, Johnny Fuentes, Jeremy Dutra, Danielle Anderson, Laurel O’ Brien
   Absent Members: Christopher Prado, Mark Allen T. Lahuian
   Guests: Chris Caldwell

III. Action Item - Approval of the Agenda
     Motion: (Chang) to approve the agenda.
     Motion Carries.
     *EVP Caldwell goes over Robert Rules of Order with the committee to inform them on how to conduct the committee meeting.

IV. Action Item - Approval of April 8th, 2011 Minutes
    Motion: (O’ Brien) to approve the April 8th, 2011 Minutes.
    Motion Carries.

V. Public Comment
   Public Comment is intended as a time for any member of the public to address the Board on any issues affecting ASI and/or the California State University, East Bay.
   No Public Comment.

VI. Action Item – Environmental Affairs Appoints: Vice Chair of Environmental Affairs
   EVP Caldwell states that the committee will be electing the vice chair of the Environmental Affairs Committee. Also, the responsibilities of the vice chair are not tremendous it may be gathering documents for the meeting or to that extent. The role is very simple. EVP Caldwell opens up the floor for nominations: two committee members nominate themselves in which they discuss their background.
   • Laurel O’ Brien states that she is a transfer student from City College of San Francisco and also was president of the Green Core club located on that specific campus which involved responsibilities of student outreach efforts, helping to enable the campus composting program, and it was great fun. She discovered that she needs leadership abilities especially when it comes to environmental issues. Also she is an environmental study major and is really excited about seeing how this committee work. Looking to be as involved as she can and will be coming back the following year to

Student Government | Conference Center | Diversity Center | Recreation & Wellness | University Union | Special Events | Events Center
apply for the Director Position of this specific committee. She indicates that she holds
great hands on experience.

- **Jeremy Dutra** states that he participated in the vice chair position in the previous
year but there wasn’t really much done also he states that he is an Environmental Stu-
dies Major and is looking to come back next year and complete a minor. Indicates
that he is really passionate about environmental issues and freshman year was in-
olved in the thinking globally cluster. Also states that he will be applying for gradu-
ate school next year and this would really benefit his resume.

**EVP Caldwell** states that since this is the first meeting the committee will be con-
ducting a secret vote; in which the members can vote for themselves or someone else.
The committee conducted a unanimous vote and appointed **Jeremy Dutra** as the vice
chair of the Environmental Affairs Committee.

VII. **Action Item** – Establish Meeting Time
Chair **Christine** opens the floor for the committee to discuss and establish a meeting time:
Chair **Christine** states that she likes every other Monday at 4:30pm.
**EVP Caldwell** indicates that it is standard for the committee to meet every other week but if
there is a serious project the committee is working on they are entitled to meet weekly.
**Motion**: (Anderson) to establish the meeting time for the Environmental Affairs Com-
mittee for every other Monday at 4:30pm.
**Motion Carries**.

VIII. **Discussion Item** – Earth Week
Chair **Christine** states that she has been meeting with the RAW Center in which they will be
co hosting an event with the committee for Earth Week. There will be three days: Monday,
Tuesday, Wednesday, and possibly Thursday none of the days are for sure but Monday. We
have been throwing around a number of ideas including zero waste bags and a one-shirt cam-
paign. Monday will be consisting of a showing of a movie and Dr. Lee speaking and another
speaker. Chair **Christine** states that she will be forwarding the committee their information
and their Bio’s. The women who made the video in regards to the closure of the national
parks will be present as well.
Chair **Christine** opens the floor for the committee to state any other ideas that they would
like to implement for Earth week. The RAW Center will be generating bags that they will be
giving away to students and the committee can think about games, prizes, and events. Think-
ing of having the game day on Tuesday in the quad area pending the rain, also looking to get
the department involved. One game that can be played is the Recycling Game in which teams
can get involved in putting the correct items in the recycling bin in a specific time frame. I
want to come up with ideas for prizes for that specific game. Also looking at getting the art
department involved to paint the recycling bins that way it can be a competition and have the
students vote on what’s the best bin. There should be a Face Book page generated so that this
event can really shine.
Chair Christine indicates to the committee that Earth Day is April 22nd 2012 and this would be taking place that following week. As of right now the only thing that is locked down for Earth Week is Monday from 12pm to 2pm.

Dutra asks what if the committee holds a bin painting session. Encourages students to form a team consisting of four or five people this way we can get campus groups to come and get involved.

Chair Christine states for the art department she wants there to be specific guidelines.

O’Brien states that a reusable bag in which people can use when they go shopping, chair Christine indicates that The RAW Center are making the bags. They are only making 120 of the bags so if necessary the committee can make some also. Chair Corrie states that she just wants to get something that the students can utilize.

Anderson states that she attended a meeting in which they distributed pens made out cardboard instead of plastic and reusable paper. So maybe the committee can use that idea and have reusable paper and card board pens. It was useful and it was a way to be earth friendly.

Chair Christine states that she would like to address the Board to see if bookstore vouchers can be given for Earth Week. We will speak to Aramark in regards to donations. We are also looking at getting things that will motivate students.

Anderson asks if there is a budget that is present when it comes to getting prizes because that would really help.

Chair Christine states that there isn’t a budget she just has to present the information to the Board of Directors. Also will be contacting PG &E and Chevron to come and have booths on campus.

Fuentes states that the bookstore vouchers can be applied to the canteens if they are offered in the bookstore.

Chair Christine states that another idea was to have raffle tickets available to students when they purchase things in the bookstore if they don’t take the plastic bag that the bookstore is offering. We would have to market this very well. We can look into this becoming an ongoing event. Raffle tickets are paper so possibly we can have students write down their email address, the committee is looking to make this happen for sure during the Earth Week.

Dutra states that they think raffle tickets can be easier. Let’s come up with brainstorming ideas for this specific item.

Chair Christine indicates that they are looking to have flash mobs on campus for Earth Week. Thinking of asking the dance clubs if they would like to participate, we will be driving to four locations in an electric car. The flash mobs will be used to get the attention of others.

This will be for people to take off different articles of clothing and donate them. If we want to get a dance choreographer or a dance team we would need a simple dance coordinated so that it can be put on Facebook. One-shirt is involved as well so they are looking at a checklist to start promoting things early March. We will be donating all the clothes that were collected to Fresco which is a local family shelter. Coming up with a Face Book page/group for the event will be something that all the committee members should chime in on.

Chan states that he will be setting up a private group just for committee members, so that they can always have a discussion and just in case a discussion is missed the information can be present so that a committee member can catch up, this is a good way for ideas to be on.
nized also. We should also set-up another page to encourage people to like and this is where announcements will go out to the students. So once a week we can come up with an announcement. Let’s put this as an Action Item for the following committee meeting to approve the Facebook pages.

Chair Christine states by the next meeting I will see what I can come up with as far as the prizes and create the logos and shirts, I am waiting on Garvin to get back to me.

The committee discusses the pros and cons of having bags and shirts for Earth Day:

- We work with Garvin to put together the shirts
- Have an idea of what we want on the shirts
- Maybe not do t-shirts and put more money into long lasting bags
- The committee will look into bag options
- Chico bags is an option
- Come up with a bag for the bookstore to sell
- It will be great to promote the bags if the committee comes out with bags and the bookstore decides to sell them.
- The raffle tickets will show how many students are interested in reusable bags
- Go around to all Aramark services and see if they can do something differently when it comes to their practices during Earth Week.
- If not the whole week at least 1 day out the week Aramark can participate
- Come up with a comprehensive list of where bags will be passed out.
- Do research on bags that are not made out of plastic

The committee discusses the food franchises on campus and their prices and rather or not they will be willing to utilize environmental friendly bags for Earth Day. The goal for Earth Week for the committee is to look for prizes.

Chair Christine states that the RAW Center is moving to recycling their paper towels that is being utilized. They are having a separate bin for paper towels to go into. We almost had a company come up for composting, the contract was written up and the company backed out the day before due to the distance they would have to drive. The committee can revisit this with Evelyn. Evelyn has a master five year plan for the housing recycling plan.

IX. Discussion Item – Housing Recycling Plan

Chair Christine states that the campus is at 88% recycling plan. The Unions are at 40% and housing is at 30% and the biggest issue is housing and getting them to start recycling. We need to come up with ideas on how we can get the students to start recycling. Housing has recycling bins with a paper indicating that this is the recycling bin. But those papers have been ripped down, threw away, or even dirtied. Schedule a time to meet with the people in housing in regards to recycling.

Chair Christine states that she has to educate herself on the zero-waste but there are posters available that the committee can put up around campus.

O’Brien states it’s creating a close loop system so that things are not being wasted. Shows how the product is made and how it is distributed. It helps with not creating any waste in the system.
Chang states that in regards to Earth Week for zero waist there definitely needs to be volunteers who are willing to sort through the trash at the end of every day. Chair Christine states that the committee can reach out to the clubs/orgs during Earth Week to see if they are willing to assist.

X. Discussion Item – Committee Codes
Chair Christine indicates that the committee codes should be reviewed by the committee as well as herself to see if there are any discrepancies. If discrepancies are found they can be sent to her via emailed and can be discussed at the next committee meeting. The committee has two weeks to look this over.

XI. Roundtable Remarks
Fuentes states a long term goal how possible is it for CSUEB to go plastic bag less. I reside in San Jose and the city ordinance now is that every store doesn’t distribute plastic bags. Technically San Jose State is under that rule and they have started doing this the beginning of 2012. The rule is if a person needs a paper bag they will charge them ten cents.
Chair Christine states that the Sustainability Conference is Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at Chico State. Consisting of tours and discussing sustainability.
Dutra states that it was discussed in the previous year and was wondering if that extra fee was still in place for the sustainability fund. At City College it was made voluntarily so if people wanted to donate funds to sustainability they can instead of it being mandatory.
Chair Christine states that the RAW Center is big on sustainability so even if a dollar that is paid to the RAW Center for the RAW Fee goes towards sustainability this will be beneficial.
Also I like the idea of the fee being voluntarily.
Chang states that everyone should be on the group page by today and can give their ideas and input on that specific page.
Anderson states that another idea can be too looked into, on what other schools have on their sustainability web page.
Chair Christine states that recycling, Earth Week, and the website are the three main that things that the committee can tackle this year.
Dutra states that another thing that was done last year is that when the students move out the dorms and are looking at throwing things the things can be donated. It’s like a giveaway at the end of the year to Goodwill.
XII. Adjournment
   Motion: (O’Brien) to adjourn meeting at 5:46pm
   Motion Carries.

   Minutes Reviewed by:
   Environmental Affairs Committee
   Name: Director Corrie Christine

   Minutes approved on:
   03-14-12
   Date: