Energy Task Force

James Hall 116, 3/7/13 9 am – 10:30 am

Participants
Megan Barry, Paul Chamberlain, Jim Dombroske, El Farrell, Robert Fortin, Jackie Furlone, Tat Fu, Tom Kelly, Steve Pesci, Lisa Pollard, Beth Potier, Sara Smith, Cameron Wake, Myke Welch

Meeting Agenda
Welcome and introductions
BFPG – Paul and Steve
ETF statement regarding UNH divestment effort
WildCAP next steps: Paul
Sustainable events recommendations related to ETF: Paul, El, Jackie
Other updates and next steps
Adjourn

Next Steps
All ETF: read through WildCAP document for next month to come prepared to start overview and working on WildCAP update
Contact Transportation Committee – or via Steve/Tom – advertise transportation challenge
Send examples from other institutions sustainable event recommendations to all TF members
El will send ETF Charter out with notes
Discussion

BFPG
Steve and Paul met with Business Finance Policy Group: BSC directors for all units/campus
One of most effective cross campus groups, cabinet being one
Very influential
Work together very well
Good exchange of information
Met to discuss vehicle purchases – discussed how much money is spent every year on vehicle purchases
Exposed them a little bit to the calculator for
Steve’s excel sheet will be online – likely linked from several places
Looking to make right choice from energy, emissions, budget perspective
Brought up issue that as a practice, UNH buys vehicles, not leases
Many of real deals are in leasing
Learned there are insurance implications w/ leasing
Great first stab at the issue, need to polish up the web page that Steve, Lisa and others are working on
Beta for now, will be updated twice a year
List of what we have for vehicles/what’s available
Get people thinking about life cycle cost not vehicle purchase price
Made them aware of CNG: that it’s available, price of fuel
Update on UNH rules on idling: follow state executive order about idling:
Above 32 degrees: 5 min limit on idling
Between 31 and -10: 15 minute limit
Below that: no limit
Mike and Ray are allies in clean fleet advisor, behind this initiative
Big believers in CNG
Moving in right direction

WildCAP next steps
What is ETF goal as a group on broader scale
Timeline of Wildcap and what meetings need to revolve around
Need to update WildCAP by end of calendar year
Remaining meetings of 2013 looking at being a working group of updating WildCAP
Look at what ETF wants to accomplish
Next Month Sara and Lou will be at meetings for rest of 2013
Will focus on overview of existing WildCAP and GHG inventory (Sara and Lou)
Get ETF input on what ETF should be doing and what document should be stating for goals of university.
Lou Simms will be “author” of document
Don’t know how far out we will be planning for this, need to decide that as well
Key indicators to benchmark??
  Every 2 years emissions inventory data online
  Have added 500000 sq. ft. of new buildings
  Helps to understand changes in energy use – where that energy’s being used
  Look five years out, what are areas we need to focus attention?

Cam: Climate Action Plan for state
  Beyond GHG inventory, might want to have a plan looked at every year or two
  Go back and look at our goals set and how we’re doing on progress, evaluate issues, hurdles etc.
  Climate Action plan at state level, most of heavy lifting done by subcommittees – do we want to start subcommittees in different areas: i.e. transportation, buildings, and behavior change
  405 students looked at other plans at other schools: can we look at others as well and pull ideas.
  Not one student new we had a climate action plan until Cam asked them to read it.
  Behavioral changes: both communications as well as formalized education – data sets that faculty can use
  Subcommittees with deadlines – not ongoing

Tom: Anything with growth boundaries, low/high growth scenarios?
  5 yr horizon probably too short to see influence from master plan update
  pressure on GHG emissions/energy use of renovating science buildings
  Renovating campus rec is one project that is likely going to go
  Most of work lined up is renovating what’s existing
  Last five years change in science buildings be a lead in to discussion for future five years, what will be renovated, added? Less on energy intensive buildings, more on academics

Tat Fu
  Transportation survey helped understand use of transportation and commuting trends
  Name-dropped programs in survey, asked if they are aware of it, got good understanding of who is aware of what programs
  Done through survey center – phone –
  Web – survey monkey, more volunteer, less statistically significant.
  Partially paid through grant, transportation and Sustainability Institute
  Cost between 10 and 15k total, majority of costs in survey center

**Tat Fu and Cameron Class**
  Advanced undergrads/grads
  Teams, where modeling needs to be done
  People that can help Lou
  Dependent on how many students enroll
Civil Engineering dept.

TPC/ETF joint meeting
TPC Exec committee meeting discussion
Exec committees of each to meet, tighten up an agenda and discuss how to go forward before getting both full committees together

Sustainability Events
Putting together a set of recommendations for sustainable events on campus
Establish baseline of what’s being done starting w/ commencement in May
Metrics of what we want to look at relating to commencement
Transportation – what are options, how is it communicated? Queuing – hard to get good feedback on
Recycling – can we get numbers on how much collected (Sue Bennett)
Transformer for special events has been added for memorial field
Matt will look at it in advance to make sure it’s reporting accurately

What exists already?
Who is involved in planning? How are they framing it? What’s their process?
Making sure that groups are using materials that are all recycling
Students marking in 5 min intervals out on roads that get to campus – measure how far back traffic is
Mike Palace’s “drone” to use for traffic, wouldn’t be flying over stadium but could be used to measure traffic at key entranceways to campus
Steve will find out how parking is handled for that day.

Transit through commencement day?
Can we keep transit full schedule through that Saturday and get buses full access to campus
Get current numbers for this year for the limited service that does exist
Wait ‘til the following year

Planning contacts
Who from facilities is involved in planning?
Asking Presidential Events who is involved in process

Other events
Student related i.e. recent DJ event
Next goals to reach out to broader UNH community: Nate Hastings, student orgs, student senate

Tat Fu
Gathering data about students guests when they request graduation tickets

Divestment: Cam
NH Listens dialogue – great discussion, report getting written up now and will be available soon.
It is reasonable for ETF to weigh in and if so what’s the process for what we will say?

- Gets us out of focus area and into different realm
- Is it consistent when we’re still totally dependent on fossil fuels to say we should divest from fossil fuels?
- Inconsistency cuts both ways, leader in sustainability, and thus complete disregard call or different kind of action
  - Extend principles that guide this group to include our operations are the way we invest our money is appropriate
  - Idea behind divestment is to start a transition away from dependency on fossil fuels, one that we need to be engaging on
- President keeps stating that we are a leader in sustainability
  - Can’t just put all of your eggs in divest basket, how to figure out how we continue in a range of efforts on campus
- Don’t have to focus on divest issue itself, but say a key part is energy use, and we deal directly with that
- Utilities behaving very different now than in past, same with automotive companies
- Have paid enormous amount of resources in lobbyists and marketing to falsify climate change
- Advocacy and ETF
  - We advocate for better energy policy and practice on campus
  - Do we also want to advocate for divestment
- Draft of some sort of statement that all ETF could get behind
- Discussion of our energy use on campus as it relates to divestment
- PAX world discussion of divestment vs. partial divestment
  - What ETF has done, partially divested in moves to EcoLine and other programs