Green Campus Committee Meeting

October 26, 2010

Present: Ish Kumar, Cynthia Radnitz, Alice Benzecry, Chris Sorenson, Julie Aiello (guest), Wanda Knapik (guest)

Alice reported on the event (Hackensack Make-A-Difference day) on Saturday. Twenty one people including 13 students, 2 faculty and 6 staff participated and cleaned up approximately 1 mile on the Hackensack side of the Greenway yielding 5 large bags of garbage and one large bag of recyclables. The event was covered by the Bergen Record, and the GCC and FDU got good press. This also qualified us to receive a $300 mini grant. We will use the mini grant to purchase signs.

Julie Aiello presented their idea for using the Greenhouse. They’ve grown vegetables at the Florham campus. They had a workshop to get students involved. At Florham, they emailed students, campaigned in the cafeteria, and made contacts with the biology department and the sustainability incubator. They put in rain barrels to irrigate. The garden didn’t sprout until September. Julie and Facilities maintained the garden. The garden is fenced in. On the Teaneck campus, they could plant in the greenhouse starting with herbs. Julie has met with Bob Valenti and Dick Riccio who have approved it provisionally. We reviewed the rules of the Greenhouse and told them they needed to have a swipe card. Students would volunteer and they could borrow a card from the Provost’s office.

We discussed in the Committee meeting that they will have to sign a contract indicating they will follow Greenhouse rules. We will have to write regulations. Then, it will have to go to Gayle LeMare and Wayne Richardson for approval. There is some concern that the irrigation system they are proposing might cause the pipes to freeze. However, we could only use it in the warmer months.

The books and bookcase are set up in the Commuter Lounge. We will make up a sign for that indicating that people can take as many books as they want or put up as many as they want as long as it is kept neat.

Alice will discuss putting points (a sign) for greenhouse usage on the Greenhouse wall. Alice will update the policy to address using the Greenhouse by outside vendors. We should find out what kind of agreement they have on the Madison campus.

We discussed improving signage on the campus. Jamie can spearhead the content/design. Allen can help in getting prices for signs. And, MaryAnne and Allen can work on signs for the recycling containers specifying what can go in each.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 9 at 1:30 pm. Please try to be there if you can. We can’t have a committee if our meetings are only sparsely attended.