

Environmental Stewardship Committee – Mesa College
2/10/2011 Agenda (**with meeting minutes added in bold text and action items underlined**)

Meeting times – 2nd Thursday of the month 12:45-1:45, place H213

Present: Maria Bolivar, Flordaliza Abuyo, Paul Detwiler, Becca Arnold, Angela Oberbauer, Michelle Rodriguez

Speaker series- Funding – 4 x \$250

Anar's suggestions for speakers

(Anar not present. Michelle will follow up with her after meeting.)

coordinator of series _____

advertise other ECO events on our flyers

(humanities series, Canyon Day – speak to Don Barrie?)

Contest – prize money - \$350

coordinator _____

recycled art / other ideas? essay - best suggestions for campus improvements

Michelle asked who had coordinated this in the past and whether anyone had a copy of the old flyer advertising the contest. No one was sure. Michelle also suggested an essay contest in place of the recycled art contest. No decision was made.

Garden - spring planting

coordinator _____

grant? new method for delegating plots?

invite individual students or student groups to sign up for a square

We discussed the past events at the garden and what it would take to get it up and running again. Maria pointed out that in the past, grant money was used to fund the planting and events. Michelle suggested, in the absence of grants, opening some of the garden up to interested students/ groups as a community garden (with designated plots assigned to the individuals or groups who would then be responsible and keep the produce).

(As an aside, Flordaliza gave an account of some of the difficulties with the committee over the past two semesters and expressed hope that it would continue.)

Maria also pointed out how the culinary arts program had used some of the produce for a while. Maria will consider these options and suggest a course of action.

update website (email currently sent to fookachu@gmail.com)

(Michelle will send update to Claude Mona.)

Manzanita Workshop – Sustainability in the Curriculum – March 26 – see attached call for applications

Michelle pointed out the workshop and invited participation.

District Smart Metering (Energy Tracking) project – the District will use Prop S money to install a system of energy meters with data available for incentivizing reductions in usage. Next DESC meeting Feb 11, 3pm. See attached email with model websites.

attending DESC meeting _____Michelle Rodriguez_____

Michelle explained the plans at the district level for a smart metering program. Angela asked how this differed from what is already in place. Michelle will continue to attend the District ESC meetings and will report back on the progress and solicit faculty involvement when it reaches that stage.

ESC advocate in planning of new campus buildings

Michelle mentioned that we should have an ESC advocate at the planning meetings for buildings going up on campus and pointed out some of the issues we should be interested in.

examples:

placement of stairs/elevators

display of data from District smart meters

water bottle refill stations – Laura (ESC at Miramar) has agreement with Lance Lareau (district architect) to place one in each new building

(followup to make sure this is the policy at Mesa) _____

other issues - _____

Becca Arnold asked about a Mesa Senate action (last year or earlier?) asking the ESC to look into the water bottle refill station issue. She mentioned that the effort may have been to install stations without filters, and that this would be a problem. No one remembered the Mesa Senate action.

At this point, we turned to a presentation by Paul Detwiler of the work he has begun on a Bottle Free Mesa campaign. He has set up a Wiki and has plans for a film series, student events, and other elements of a campaign which will hopefully eventually lead to an end or severe reduction in the use of plastic water bottles.

Becca also pointed out how the Manzanita Workshop might be a chance to work on curriculum issues that would support the campaign.

The committee brainstormed and agreed that sponsoring a table at Canyon Day at which students were invited to “taste test” bottled and tap (filtered?) water with the hope of convincing them that bottled water is not always best. Some wondered what would happen if bottled water won... The suggestion was also made to use some of our funds for a contest that would be featured at the event. Paul will follow up with requesting money from the Humanities Institute and with the Canyon Day booth.

buildings:

Social Science building - Michelle Rodriguez_____

math/science - no advocate specified_____

other buildings/advocates - _____

submission of new budget (**the following not discussed because we ran out of time**)

AASHE

speakers

contest

other? – banner? _____

Eco-Mesa website updated – coordinator - Claude Mona_____

Other issues/suggestions?

student enviro group

recycling status