COMMITTEE: University Environment Committee

MEETING DATE: February 26, 2015

PERSON PRESIDING: Eban Bean, CHAIR

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Eban Bean, Rebecca Powers, Jill Twark, Tony Capehart

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Koch, Lauren Gunter, Eric Gardner, John Gill, Brian Glover, Scott Lecce

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Pat Long, Michala Ritz, Justin Waters

ACTIONS OF MEETING

1. Standing items

   Action Taken: Attendance taken. Reviewed Agenda, motion to approve Powers and seconded by Glover, motion passed. Reviewed January minutes, motion to approve Twark, seconded by Gardener, motion passed.

2. Priority Business
   a. Campus Smoking Policy

   Discussion: Powers had emailed members the draft of the ECU Smoking Policy that was approved by Human Resources and ECU Lawyers with the UEC additions about electronic cigarettes and vaping. Hardin had emailed a few editorial changes to Bean and he briefly described them to the group. Powers stated that we only added a sentence to one section and our committee did not have any input on the rest of the policy that was written by HR using standard language.

   Action taken: Motion to approve Powers, seconded Gardner, motion passed.

3. Guests
   a. Center for Sustainability (CS) Director, Pat Long

   Guest presenter Dr. Long was accompanied to the meeting by a CS graduate student Michala Ritz. His presentation was complemented with PowerPoint slides and included the following information. Long described the development of ECU’s CS and their recent relocation to the College of Engineering and Technology which led to the name change Center for
**Sustainability: Tourism, Natural Resources, and the Built Environment.** Long stated that tourism is the world’s largest industry and it involves sustainable practices that are being carried out by various types of businesses. For example, Bridgestone Tire Company has a recycling program in place and the NHL has a green initiative with “go green night” and the green sports alliance. Long described CS staff and their positions, connections and partnerships established with others on and off campus including collaborators across the state of NC. These partnerships involve a variety of initiatives and bring opportunities to campus. CS broadly collaborates and building relationship is a part of their success. Long described the CS website resources, webinars and energy audits. He stated, “The NC Green Travel is a no-cost program that seeks to encourage robust economic growth, good health and environmental stewardship in the tourism industry. Details are available on our website.” Long stated that ECU offers the nation’s first interdisciplinary Master of Science in Sustainable Tourism (MS-ST) degree. Long stated that this graduate program has been successful but with the move of the CS there are efforts being made to decide an appropriate “home” for the interdisciplinary program.

**Discussion:** Members asked questions of clarification and Long responded. Members stated willingness to support CS and asked Long to contact UEC if and when necessary.

**Actions taken:** None at this time.

b. Green Travel Program with Club Sports, Justin Waters, Director of Club Sports

Guest presenter Waters provided the following Information. There are approximately 1200 student athletes participating in club sports and they get their budget from the Division of Student Affairs. ECU and the University of Colorado at Boulder are the first club sports programs in the nation to adopt the Code “Pledge to Travel Green.” Waters’ office is working directly with ECU’s Center for Sustainability in the planning, implementation, measurement and tracking of the impact of the Code. This effort involves the actions of thousands of students on both campuses and they are among the over 2 million club sport athletes in the nation. These athletes travel to, as well as host, competitive events that require transportation, lodging and food service, and have a direct effect on the use of energy and water and the creation of waste. He stated “The travel footprint for this amount of people is substantial and by implementing the Travel Care Code, this footprint can be dramatically reduced.” In Greenville, each visiting team gets a handout with recommendations for “green” actions. The handout includes the following: encourage the use vans and carpooling to attend events rather than drive individually, required use of personal water bottles because no disposable cups are provided and water fountains on site have bottle “fillers, recommendations for local businesses and restaurants. Waters attended a
sustainability conference and exchanged ideas with others and showed what ECU is doing. He plans to work on getting other campuses to join this green initiative and have NC be the first in the nation to do this effort with club sports.

**Discussion:** Members asked questions and Waters responded. The group stated willingness to support this initiative and asked that Water contact UEC if and when necessary.

**Actions taken:** None at this time.

c. Bike Racks and other Bike related business

Glover reported that he reviewed that Master Plan and there is a covered bike park in the plan. He will follow-up with the faculty member that emailed UEC with the request for covered bike racks. Glover stated that he is working with the Greenville City Planning staff to get bike lanes and sidewalks connected to the Greenway. Gill reported that the pavers for the bike lanes along the Mall have arrived. They are being etched with the symbol and then will be put in place. In Fall 2015 there are plans for putting up temporary signs to publicize bike lanes and walk lanes. Gill reported that there are 92 covered bike racks in the plans for the new parking garage at the Student Center and it will also house a bike repair station.

**Discussion:** Members expressed support for the progress being made on bike initiatives.

**Actions:** None taken at this time.

d. Solar Incentive Program

Bean reported that he was making progress on the task and would report more in the future.

4. New business

Bean requested that UEC publicly recognize the good work carried out by Facility Services during the recent snowy and icy weather. The members agreed.

At this point the assigned meeting time had expired. Bean moved that all remaining business be tabled, seconded by Powers, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35pm.

**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, March 26th 2014, 3:30 pm in Rawl Annex