COMMITTEE: University Environment Committee

MEETING DATE: February 28, 2019

PERSON PRESIDING: Carol Goodwillie

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Carol Goodwillie, Brian Glover, Kanchan Das, Susan

Pearce, Lisa Beth Robinson, Tomika Williams

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Koch

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Gene Stano, Supervisor of Grounds Services and ECU Arborist; Josh Rossnagel, Maintenance Supervisor-Parking & Transport; Chris Davenport, Operations Manager-Lime Bike; Lori Lee

ACTIONS OF MEETING: Approval of minutes

Edits needed: no edits needed, approved by acclamation.

## **ACTIONS OF MEETING**

Agenda Item: Update from Chris Davenport on the LimeBike program on campus

<u>Discussion:</u> A slide show with interesting ECU-related Lime statistics was presented.

- ECU launched in 2018 with100 pedal bicycles, reached 225 by April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- We are consistently in the top 5 company-wide trips per vehicle per day. Per capita, globally, ECU is always recognized for high numbers.
- There is a pedal bike ECU discount.
- Pirates have saved 96,369 pounds of CO2, the equivalent of 3 city buses.

Questions were asked regarding the delineation between ECU riders and townsfolk. Chris estimates 5% max are non-ECU peeps. There were also questions regarding places the bikes can be parked around town. The Lime team works to collect off-campus bicycles as quickly as possible, particularly from the Teeter on 14<sup>th</sup>. Questions regarding loss and damage were addressed (fleet mechanics maintain the bicycles) as well as how the bikes are kept charged (rechargeable battery cylinders, to which only Lime has a key).

There was also a longer discussion regarding the places bikes are left and concerns about ADA access to walkways. Users are given a list of do's and don'ts when first downloading the app.

Josh Rossnagel noted that his data showed that Lime reduced the amount of bikes parked on/in ADA ramps because Lime can be parked anywhere, and that 60% fewer bikes are being locked in/on ADA ramps. Chris said they can create in-app messaging that they riders have to click on before starting the bike.

Bill K asked if Lime had any conversations with the city about where Lime is headed (i.e. citywide, not just campus wide). Chris had not but noted that he sits on the Greenville bike commission and they're trying to lean on the City Council to make a decision one way or the other, that the ball is currently rolling for shared mobility to be allowed in the city. The timeline was undefined due to mixed response from City Council.

Lori L inquired to the cost to ECU. There is no cost to us, simply use of our space. Bill K noted that we wanted to provide that service, that [ECU] would rather have bikes than build more parking spaces, and it being a zero sum game for us made it more interesting. There is a MOU between Lime and ECU.

Action Taken: n/a

Assigned additional duties to: n/a

Agenda Item: Survey on ECU Natural Areas, possible inclusion of the following items:

- 1. Using hydroponic freight farms, outdoor classroom space, and natural areas for education and/or research;
- 2. Sustainability research;
- 3. Including sustainability issues in course curriculum
- 4. Additional items (suggestions from committee members)

<u>Discussion:</u> Carol: our second item is to talk about this idea of expanding a survey that we sent out from this group (requested after the survey's first iteration). We also want to have it promoted as much as possible by faculty senate/senators to bring to departments, with the goal being to make faculty aware of resources of which they might not be aware.

Gene noted that his survey coincides with what Carol and he discussed and needs to go to the entire faculty. He is giving I a presentation in May regarding determining the best route to identify the Facilities activities going on and what problems we're causing on campus, what we can do better, and what areas are being used for studies. There are 3 studies going on right now. He thinks this would be a way for Grounds Services to identify areas of use, keep a database, include them in the tree survey and if anyone else has a study they can piggyback on this. i.e. they need to know what activities are happening so the blowers aren't running when there's a class. His 3 questions:

- 1. What current activities are you conducting?
- 2. What hindrances have you experienced during outside activities?
- 3. What enhancements would you encourage to [support] more outside activities?

Also discussed were Chad's efforts to having sustainability issues included in coursework, another way of getting the idea out there, and create awareness. He wanted to add a question about that and also a question about faculty research regarding whether or not people are doing research on sustainability.

Susan pointed out that our survey has to be cleared through IPAR because they're trying to limit the number of surveys and suggested it be set it up in Qualtrix.

Carol pointed out that everyone seems comfortable with expanding the survey while keeping it shorter. [members agreed!]

## Action Taken:

Susan will speak with IPAR about structuring the survey regarding constitutents/requirements.

Carol will revise and expand the survey.

Assigned additional duties to: n/a

## **ACTIONS OF MEETING**

Agenda Item: Gene Stano gives a brief presentation about the ECU Tree Trail

<u>Discussion:</u> Gene: as part of tree campus USA, we just received an award for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row. Mike Bunton (Bunting?), an alumnus, donated money for campus beautification. Two students have been hired to work on an ECU Tree Trail app, which is almost complete! The trail starts at the Fine Arts Center and follows a 1.5 mi trail through campus (almost 100% ada compliant). It takes you through all the gardens on campus too. The app points out significant trees through the campus. Right now there are 45 on the trail, i.e. the pine tree outside Wright Plaza. It will give a little information on each tree as you come up to it: genus, species, uses, pollinator aspects, and medicinal uses for the trees. His team worked

with the Country Doctor museum on descriptions. The rollout will be April 11<sup>th</sup>, during Earth Week.

There is also work on a campus arboretum. It will be announced just before Earth Week and will be expanded to the Health Science campus around Lake Laupus. Gene noted that our campus has some of the most unique trees of any campus in the NC System and that other campuses (App, Chapel Hill) don't compare.

Also, we are becoming a Bee Campus USA! Beehives will be on the Health Science campus. Dale Aycock, a local bee keeper from the School of Medicine, is working with Gene to establish the hives/colonies.

Mr. Bunton (alumnus, beautification donor) is soliciting additional donors who will contribute money for campus beautification.

Action Taken: n/a

Assigned additional duties to: n/a

ANNOUNCEMENTS: n/a

NEXT MEETING: March 28, 2019

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: Survey updates