

**Campus Sustainability Subcommittee (CSS)**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
October 27, 2021

**Present:** Jen Natyzak (chair), Carol Schnitzer, Emme Tissue (on behalf of Julia Danielson and EAC), Dan Rodecker, Rik Scarce

**Absent:** Xavier McKinzie, Kate Phillips '23, Julia Danielsen '22

This meeting was held on Zoom.

**1. Office updates**

- a. **Search Committee for Sustainability Director** is in holding pattern.

Co-Chairs:

Staff- Jen Natyzak, Interim Director for Sustainability Programs

Faculty- Mark Youndt, Professor of Management, Director of Sustainability for Faculty Affairs

Members:

Student- Luna Peralta, Sustainable Workplace Manager, '23

Student- Nick Cipriani, BikeMore Manager, '23

Staff- Michelle Hubbs, Director of Community Service

Faculty- Rik Scarce, Professor of Sociology, Faculty Member on Campus Sustainability Committee

Dean of the Faculty- Pat Fehling, Associate Dean of the Faculty for Infrastructure and Faculty Affairs, Professor of Health and Human Physiological Sciences

Facilities- Dan Rodecker, Director of Facilities

- b. **Student program updates**

- i. Zero Waste Events: Founders Day & Friday Celebration Weekend- first campus-wide events. Great future potential to expand these projects.
- ii. SWOP office program kicked off. Seeking participation.
- iii. STARS- in final stages of submission and awaiting announcement in coming months.

- c. **Thank you, Rik, for representing Sustainability on IPPC**

**2. Sustainability Mid Plan Review Available**

- a. Ideas for how to release the document? Group agrees to wait for public announcement until Director position filled. Suggestion to circulate among Admin.

**3. Supporting Sustainability at Skidmore**

- a. **Campus Master Planning**

- i. [Updates available online](#)
- ii. Next meetings provide overview and feedback of findings, held Thursday October 28th, 4:00-5:00 PM and Friday, October 29, 12:00-1:00 PM

**4. CSS committee**

- a. Still seeking 2 new reps** for Advancement and Student Affairs
- b. Next meeting** to be held in Dec.

**Campus Sustainability Subcommittee (CSS)**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
December 13, 2021

**Present:** Jen Natyzak (chair), Beth Brucker-Kane, Carol Schnitzer, Emme Tissue '23, Kate Phillips '23, Julia Danielsen '22, Xavier McKinzie, Dan Rodecker, Rik Scarce

**Absent:** none

This meeting was held on Zoom.

**Meeting Agenda**

- 1. Brief presentation/discussion of Skidmore's Plastic "Break Free From Plastic" Pledge**
  - a. Co-Founders: Lily Feldman '22 and Jessica Plotnick '22  
& Core Team: Madison McCluskey '24, Ella Provost '25, and Katherine Almquist '24
  - b. We have been asked by President Connor to work with this group to present a policy to IPCC. Kudos to this team for their work and research single use plastics, the impacts and how the pledge has been tackled on other campuses.
    - i. <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MT3-6-maahDnoKgInN4a7x2wyUsrMOHC?usp=sharing>
    - ii. Org started Sept 2020 with Lily and Jessica. Trash pickup in fall 2020 found dozen + bag of plastic trash on campus. SGA resolution was passed in April '21 to go plastic free.
    - iii. Post Landfill Action Network (PLAN.org) is the leading org to track campus commitments to plastic elimination
    - iv. Rik comments that this could be a "gateway moment" as the first step to manage waste efforts on campus
- 2. October Meeting Minutes-** approved
- 3. Sustainability Office updates**
  - a. **Director search** - the job went up on Fri 12/10 and initial review begins Jan 5, committee convenes Jan 17
  - b. **AASHE STARS update** - we are mere points away from gold. We were silver in 2017.
  - c. **Student staff updates**
    - i. Intern projects: Zero Waste Guide, Sustainability themed housing with ResLife
    - ii. Sustainable Workplace Operations Program now online
    - iii. Looking ahead to the spring: compost pilot for ResHalls, partnership with Dining Services on waste, partnership with ResLife on exploring options for renting mini fridges for ResHalls
  - d. **Funding projects for FY 23**

- i. Submissions will include funding for a hoop house in coordination with a capstone group from ESS, 2 water bottle refill stations, new U shaped bike racks, funding for formal outdoor seating on the purple trail in the north woods, an electric bike to make our residential compost program more doable and accessible to bike riders on the hills of North Woods
- ii. Suggestions welcome

**4. Committee updates**

- a. Welcome Beth!
  - b. Jen will ask folks to share Sustainable Workplace Operations Program participation details with their colleagues; see email to be sent with meeting notes with blurb about SWOP to forward.
  - c. Looking ahead to Spring 22**
    - i. Break free from Plastic pledge- review and submission to IPPC
    - ii. Parking task force
  - d. Campus Master Planning
  - e. New business or updates from committee members?
- 5. Next meeting in early February, will send around a poll in January**

**Campus Sustainability Subcommittee (CSS)**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
February 22, 2022

**Present:** Jen Natyzak (chair), Beth Brucker-Kane, Carol Schnitzer, Julia Danielsen '22, Xavier McKinzie, Dan Rodecker, Rik Scarce

**Absent:** Emme Tissue '23, Kate Phillips '23

This meeting was held on Zoom.

**1. Dan- Daycare**

- a. The college has relocated the center to North Broadway. Once this is complete, Sports Center conversations may resume.
- b. Pine Cottage Annex is the new site. It's 200sqft larger than the last site.
- c. This goes to Greenfield for planning and building permissions
- d. Much of the space design has sustainability in mind (footprint) and the size required by states by age group
- e. Parking is required for drop off only. Parking for employees will be on the street or on the
- f. Space meets sustainability guides
- g. 30 trees need to be cleared for the build. Some trees will be left in place to add share for the play area. There are a few dangerous and rotted trees that may be hanging.
- h. Recommendations
  - i. Install bike racks
  - ii. Natural
- i. Discussion
  - i. Beth suggests notifying Greenberg donor about the project
  - ii. Rik comments that it may be worth considering having
  - iii. Jen comments about need for crosswalks for kids and teachers
  - iv. Xavier asking about prepping for the construction. Dan notes no traffic.

**2. Project updates**

- a. **New director!**
- b. **Parking Working Group Findings**
  - i. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aPmF0Nu7mkp1eWywGF7FPw6aHQYiiBAmYaFGv1JNjNw/edit?usp=sharing>
  - ii. Top violations 8/1-1/24
    1. were 419 tickets for parking in commuter lots,
    2. 238 tickets for parking in 30 minute loading area
    3. 207 unregistered vehicle
  - iii. Next steps...
    1. Get # of parking spaces from Dan and facilities
    2. Intern speculate on parking for on campus

- iv. 15 years ago there was an internal transportation department. There were multiple buses and a 15 passenger van that would drive to the
- v. Currently very expensive bus rental program
- vi. Dan will send most current policy for the rental cars to Jen
- vii. Jen will get intern working on inventory, consult Rik

**c. Break free from Plastic**

**a. ReuseMore**

- i. Idea from Rik to get custom sticky notes to put on containers

**i. Need to develop policy on purchasing**

**3. Sugarbush project**

**4. EV Charging stations**

**Campus Sustainability Subcommittee (CSS)**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
April 25, 2022

**Present:** Jen Natyzak (chair), Beth Brucker-Kane, Carol Schnitzer, Xavier McKinzie, Dan Rodecker, Tarah Rowse (incoming Director)

**Absent:** Emme Tissue '23, Kate Phillips '23, Rik Scarce, Julia Danielsen '22

This meeting was held on Zoom.

**1. Discussion on 2 priority projects for City of Saratoga Springs Infrastructure Committee: Glen Mitchell and Clinton**

- a. The 2 projects (Glen Mitchell and Clinton Rd) are part of city's [Greenbelt Trail](#) proposal
  - i. Pre-IPPC important to consider how many people would be affected by this project
  - ii. 7 yay votes
- b. Potential remote vote may be needed. With passing vote we may bring this to IPPC to officially submit to SS IC
  - i. Next IPPC meeting?
  - ii. There are officially 7 active members, 8 to include Tarah

**2. Update on ReuseMore in DHall**

- a. **Future of ReuseMore** – eliminate program from DHall as to go is eliminated. Utilize only in the Spa moving forward.
- b. **Next steps for Break Free From Plastic Pledge** – group discusses dining's buy in is essential. Dining leadership and others express concern about "plastic free" which suggests the impossible, that plastic in shipping, production, storage could be plastic free. That task seems to daunting and unimaginable.

**3. Recap of Sustainability Office projects for the year**

- a. **Student Programs**
  - i. Intern projects: Compost in ResHalls pilot, Zero Waste guide and website launch, Sustainability Themed ResHall, limited vehicle study of Palamountain lot and Campus Safety Parking proposal
    1. Consider STARS impact
  - ii. SWOP
  - iii. BikeMore plans to update the share and move the racks next spring
- b. **Give+Go set for one weekend date, 5/22**
- c. **Funding approved: Hoop House for summer 22** – two seniors, Emily and Julia, will stay on campus through the summer to complete the project, under the advising of ESS Program with support of the Sustainability Office. Funding possible with donor, capital budget request for various hoop house supplies, and summer program funding to compensate these two students for their time this summer.

4. Future of CSS
  - a. Need to fill vacancy (Student Affairs)
  - b. Consider additional representation from Dining
5. New business, questions, announcements