Student Sustainability Council

Meeting Minutes

[11/17/2024]

**Taken by:** Leila Dawson

1. **Beginning of Meeting**

a) [4:00pm] - Reading of the Preamble and Introductions

1. **Proposal Presentations** [4:01pm]

a) [4:01pm] - Presentation Begins “Plant for the Planet”

* Engage students from HON 301 “Urban Restoration Ecology,” HON 140 “Knowledge and Society,” and the ENS, NRES, and Forestry and Natural Resources programs.
* Plant 10 ball and burlap trees along Alumni Drive corridor.
* Total ask: $2,500

b) [4:07pm] - Presentation Begins “Ecological Restoration”

* Support two undergraduate research assistants to: continue water quality sampling initiated with Challenge Grant funding in summer 2020.
* Repeat macroinvertebrate sampling conducted in spring 2022 and 2023.
* Total ask: $9,747

c) [4:12pm] - “Plant for the Planet” & “Ecological Restoration” Presentation End and Q&A Begins

* Has the ecological restoration project always been paid? Students have been paid through an accumulation of funding sources: challenge grants, wolf run grants, and the SSC.
* Other than monitoring the water quality what has the research been used for? Students presented posters at the Sustainability Showcase, worked with the Department of Forestry to produce a manuscript that focus on water quality data, evaluated if we can use environmental DNA for invertebrates, worked with Ashbury University, and the Kentucky Water Research Institute to include salamanders.
* Do you already have the students selected? We have two students that will continue their previous research.
* What species of trees will you be planting? Tree species are selected by campus arborists and determined by availability. They will be native.
* Is there a reason why you didn't plant smaller trees to plant more for a cheaper price? Up to the university, UK grounds
* What happens to your project if you do not receive funding today? Plant for the planet project would reach out to UK grounds. Ecological restoration would talk to Lewis Honors College and Undergraduate Research. Encourage students to apply for summer research scholarship.

d) [4:23pm] - “Plant for the Planet” & “Ecological Restoration” Q&A Ends

a) [4:23pm] – Discussion of “Plant for the Planet” Begins

i) Great way to engage students on campus in restoration efforts. Beneficial for students participating in HON 301 and HON 140.

ii) Project aligns with the 3 pillars of sustainability and improves campus sustainability efforts.

iii) Smaller trees would allow for more trees planted and $2500 would buy smaller sapling trees, however, trees selected are chosen by UK grounds and the University.

1. [4:37pm] – Discussion of “Plant for the Planet” Proposal Ends
2. [4:37pm] - Motion to vote (Sophia)(Kaylee)
3. [4:38pm] – Discussion of “Ecological Restoration” Begins
4. Supports sustainability research at the University

ii) Previously funded, ongoing project

1. [4:40pm] – Discussion of “Ecological Restoration” Ends
2. [4:40pm] - Motion to vote (Kyle)(Shaun)

**VOTE RESULTS** – PASSED/NOT PASSED Yes [16] No [0] Abstain [0]

1. **Announcements [4:40pm]**
   1. Creating a draft proposal for the next meeting to increase the environmental stewardship fee from $4 to $5, about 55k per dollar of fee.
   2. Discussed tabling for UK Sustainability Showcase for engagement credits.

**PROPOSAL #1 VOTING RECORD, “Plant for the Planet”**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Y/N/A** | **Name** | **Y/N/A** |
| Shaun Lavin | Y | Mallory Sparks | Y |
| Leila Dawson | Y | Kaylee Bliss | Y |
| Alycie Caya | Y | Mae Hanna | Y |
| Kauner Shacklette | Y | Phoebe Brown | Y |
| Sophia McKay | Y | Brandon Bolf | Y |
| Kyle Heffernan | Y | Sophia Hahn | Y |
| Sophia Cahill | Y | Ella Bratcher | Y |
| Darren Tosh | Y | Ari Almeida | Y |

* + 1. Amount requested: [$2,500]
    2. **Amount approved: [$2,500]**

**PROPOSAL #1 VOTING RECORD, “Ecological Restoration”**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Y/N/A** | **Name** | **Y/N/A** |
| Shaun Lavin | Y | Mallory Sparks | Y |
| Leila Dawson | Y | Kaylee Bliss | Y |
| Alycie Caya | Y | Mae Hanna | Y |
| Kauner Shacklette | Y | Phoebe Brown | Y |
| Sophia McKay | Y | Ari Almeida | Y |
| Kyle Heffernan | Y | Brandon Bolf | Y |
| Sophia Cahill | Y | Sophia Hahn | Y |
| Darren Tosh | Y | Ella Bratcher | Y |

* + 1. Amount requested: [$9,747]
    2. **Amount approved: [$9,747]**

**ATTENDANCE**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **P/A** | **Name** | **P/A** |
| Shaun Lavin | P | Sophia Cahill | P |
| Ella Bratcher | P | Sophia Hahn | P |
| Darren Tosh | P | Finley Haight | A |
| Parker Schimpff | A | Phoebe Brown | P |
| Leila Dawson | P | Ari Almeida | P |
| Sam Dukes | A | Sophia McKay | P |
| Brandon Bolf | P | Kaylee Bliss | P |
| Alycie Caya | P | Eli Ortt | A |
| Kauner Shacklette | P | Samantha Gentry | A |
| Mallory Sparks | P | Caity Weaver | A |
| Mae Hanna | P | Kayla Payne | A |
| Kyle Heffernan | P | Morgan Knutsen | A |