

CESAS

Consortium for Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

CESAS Meeting Summary

102 Ward Hall, KSU

December 11, 2008

Participants

Ken Barnard, Aviation Department, K-State (via teleconference)
Ben Champion, Director of Sustainability, Geography, K-State
Larry Erickson, CHSR, Chemical Engineering, K-State; also representing the KNRC
Ryan Green, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, K-State
Rhonda Janke, Horticulture, Forestry, & Recreation Resources, K-State
Curtis Kastner, Food Science Institute, Animal Sciences and Industry, K-State
Ruth Miller, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Wind Application Center, K-State
Oral Saulters, Center for Hazardous Substance Research, K-State

Welcome, Introductions, & Opening Remarks

- Larry Erickson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Agenda Review

- The participants reviewed the tentative agenda and concurred on its content.

K-State Sustainability Task Force

- Ben Champion and Larry Erickson thanked Ken Barnard for submitting the contact information for the Salina campus representative for the Sustainability Task Force.
- The task force is being coordinated by the Provost and the first meeting date/time will be set soon.
- Ben Champion plans to present a plan, framework, and aggressive schedule for moving forward.

Pew Charitable Trust/TASK Initiative

- The three-page letter of inquiry was politely declined by the PEW Trust.
- Plans for the Technical Assistance for Sustainable Kansas (TASK) Program are still being shaped.
- Efforts with existing funding, potential partners, and ideas for additional opportunities (public, private, foundations, etc.) were discussed.
- Organizations and programs such as the Kansas Green Schools Program (sponsored by the KDHE & KACEE), Climate and Energy Project (Oral Saulters will contact), were suggested as potential collaborators; PPI, CHSR, CESAS and KACEE are evaluating additional grant possibilities.

K-State Sustainability Conference

- Ben Champion noted that the program details and registration are being finalized and confirmed.
- CESAS was thanked for sponsorship funding.
- Advertisement approaches and suggestions were brainstormed (e.g., newspapers, press release, off campus outlets, task force, etc.).
- Experts and policy makers are being confirmed for environment, energy, and agriculture panels.
- In terms of public policy, the group discussed potential priorities with respect to green economy, employment, and infrastructure for the incoming Presidential Administration (e.g., electricity grid, communications infrastructure, transportation, local food network, etc.).
- Ruth Miller noted that the KCC was accepting comments on plans for transmission lines.

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Speakers' Bureau on Sustainability

- Many CESAS partners are part of ongoing public speaking engagements on important subjects (Rhonda Janke, sustainable agriculture; Ruth Miller, wind energy; Ken Barnard, energy efficiency; Ben Champion, sustainability; etc.).
- Additional speakers covering a range of sustainability-related topics are needed for presentations to various educational, service, and civic groups.
- *CESAS members are encouraged to sign-up and participate, sharing expertise and intellectual curiosity are vital for stakeholder education/outreach!*
- Multimedia methods for sharing and interacting were discussed (e.g., sustainability seminar series, video, teleconference [Q&A], Google Video, WebEx, Wimba, etc.).

K-State Student Activities

- Ben Champion provided an overview of several student-focused initiatives and activities (e.g., bicycle rental/maintenance program, privilege fee, recyclemania, ecolympics, game day recycling, internship program, etc.).
- Current economic challenges for recycling industry and long-term resource patterns were addressed.

Earth Day Planning

- Group discussed Earth Day events and K-State Engineering Open House possibilities.
- Potential speakers and creative topics were explored (e.g., new Administration representative, Landon Lecture, energy topics, Native American perspectives, parade, costumes, booths, paper/video competition, etc.).
- “Fast Forward 2050 (Life Styles in the Future)” was a potential theme.

Upcoming Events

- **Kansas Rural Center**, Sustainable Agriculture Conference, December 13, 2008, Blue Rapids, KS, “*Meeting Agriculture’s Challenges in a Rapidly Changing World*”.
<http://www.kansasruralcenter.org/>
- **Public Issues Facilitation Workshop**, January 12-14, 2009, hosted by Institute for Civic Discourse and Democracy. Public issues are matters of widespread concern for a community, such as poverty or public needs, land use practices, or environmental issues. To learn more about the workshop and to register, visit www.ksu.edu/icdd
- “**Leading Kansas in Sustainability, The Role of K-State**” **KSU Sustainability Conference**, January 23, 2009, K-State Student Union, Manhattan, Kansas

Other

- Larry Erickson presented ideas on *sustainable energy* with respect to K-State planning and transportation (e.g., parking, solar panels for shade, electric cars/plug-in, etc.).
- Ruth Miller updated the group on the potential project with Westar (wind turbine for K-State).
- Ken Barnard discussed the FAA project and student opportunities for environmental management.
- The minutes of prior meetings may be found on the Internet at www.engg.ksu.edu/CHSR/sustainability
- Sustainability Seminar videos are available at <http://www.engg.ksu.edu/chsr/events/che670/200808/>

Next Meeting

Thursday, January 29, 1:30 PM Central, Ward 102.

Thank you everyone for your kind participation and support!