

Library Environmental Committee Minutes—Feb 22, 2011

Present: Kriss Ostrom, Michelle Allen, Susan Kendall(minutes), Susie Garmo (chairing), Stephanie Perentesis , Hsiang Ping Cha Absent: Mike Unsworth, Elida Marti, Heidi Schroeder

Chili cook-off -Michelle has talked to Sue Levy and Susie Garmo about the Library Staff Association (LSA) chili cook-off event, as questions had been asked about what kind of bowls and utensils to use. It was decided to advertise the event as “BYO bowl and mug”, in hopes that many might bring their own. -Kriss offered to look into purchasing permanent bowls for MSU Libraries events, preferably in glass, and will email a proposal to the LEC and to the LSA. If glass or other permanent bowls cannot be purchased in time for the event, we’ll suggest the LSA purchase plastic disposable bowls that can be recycled afterwards (not Styrofoam). -It was agreed that we would use Libraries metal utensils for the event. Kriss offered to wash these afterwards, and Michelle offered to help.

Smart Commute -Mike has agreed to coordinate this year. Kriss plans to assist Mike in the emails that go out about the event. The idea is to craft an email that encourages more widespread participation. -We could not answer Mike’s emailed question about whether to fund Smart Commute this year because we did not have information about the cost. We hope Mike will supply this information. -Kriss noted that there seem to be no pop cans lately in the staff lounge recycling container, and no one is sure why. Since that was our source of income, we have not had income lately. -Mike had asked a question about whether to have a bike commuter class this year. It made sense to the group to schedule this maybe only every other year.

Earth Day Events -Hsiang Ping agreed to be the greeter and introducer for Peter Carrington on the April 21 Beal Garden tour. -Susan K. is starting to work on the Earth Day exhibit.

New Library Employee Orientation Checklist -Kriss found out from Lisa Robinson that the checklist used for our newest librarian did not have the updated information about the Library Environmental Committee. Kriss will talk with Heather about this.

Granger Tour -The idea of a field trip for the LEC is still tabled for the future.

Public Relations -Ruth Ann had emailed some comments and suggestions following the low attendance at the “Raising Chickens” noontime event. She had mentioned that the event was not appropriate for students, and that that may explain the low numbers. We discussed this and concluded that our mission is not necessarily to students (although we’re happy to provide information and outreach to them where possible, such as on Earth Day), but that primarily we exist to provide education for library staff. We’ve opened up our events to a wider MSU audience that may, at times, include students, but often may be more of interest for MSU employees. The presenters in the “Chickens” panel enjoyed how the event went. It was also noted that we understood that some topics may have a more “niche” interest than others.

Ecogram -Kriss offered to send out the Ecogram this month focusing on information about the “Recyclemania” challenge and to attach the list she’s been working on detailing what can now be recycled with mixed paper and plastic. That list will also go up on the wiki so that it can be continually updated.