



Advisor: Gary Cocke
Chair: Aaron Davis
Vice-Chair: Adam Miller
Secretary: Keanna Wiggins

We Mean Green Fund Committee Minutes

BLB 115

Friday, February 26, 2016

11:30 pm- 1:00 pm

Time	Topic	Context
11:30	Approval of Minutes	Unanimous approval of minutes
11:32	Chairman Update	Nominations for Vice Chair- Adam Miller elected on unanimous vote
11:39	Advisor Report	Upcoming Proposals/ Projects <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Storm Drain Artscape- Monica Garcia 2. Tailgate Recycling
11:42	BYOB Campaign to Earthfest	<p>~Presenters: Alexis Wong and Daniel Suda~</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthfest traditionally connects with UNT Sustainability and UNT International. The event will be held Thursday April 21st. • Bottles will be passed out at the coke trailer instead of the typical plastic cups and asks UNT dining to not give out water bottles during EarthFest. • Card swiping will result in a survey that will specifically ask questions about the bottle and gain feedback regarding them. • Prizes are still up for debate and consideration. <p>~Q & A~</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the purchase of bottles at every EarthFest and hopefully the ones passed out will be kept throughout the year. • Send out surveys closer to the date of the events to ensure responses. • A suggestion was raised to put small paper/ business card with the bottles advertising the survey but it would increase waste which is what this proposal is trying to prevent. • Possibly put print on the bottle that says “Bring back to UNT events” • The new union doesn’t have storage so bottles will be delivered the day of the event through Groggy Dog.



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<p>11:55</p>	<p>Community Garden</p>	<p>~Presenters: Meaning Green Sustainability Organization~</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a strong desire from students to volunteer and work in the garden based on student surveys. • Plans for this proposal’s sustainability plan will involve the environment, students, and UNT campus. <p>~Q & A~</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did you determine the hours specified would be sufficient for the facilitator position? We currently don’t have the means to pay the facilitator enough which resulted in a decrease of hours and we would like more facilitators if adjustments are needed for upkeep in the future. • What other models are you drawing off from? Modeling on community gardens in the Denton area with consulting from UNT Health and Sciences Center as well as offices in Plano to create a very basic model and expand later in the future. • The Garden Facilitator is a part time student position ensuring that individuals who have their own plots and would be willing to help with the Dye Garden.
<p>12:10</p>	<p>Discovery Park Running Trail</p>	<p>~Presenter: Adam Miller~</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a 3 year plan to plant native wildflowers to assist with research in the UNT graduate and research departments. <p>~Q & A~</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why the whole trail? It might be a better investment to do a smaller area and expand over time. • Do you have plans to expand awareness and utility to the main campus? If approved a running event will be done on an annual basis to bring awareness to the trail. • Although Adam will be graduating in May there will be several organizations that will be involved to ensure that the project follows through. • Bio-blitz: doing a biodiversity assessment with graduate and undergraduate students guided by staff and faculty to all work together on this one project. Taking record of every organism in the area initially and adding different plants or sections in each year.



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have there been any studies about how often the trail is used? The trail is not used, but this plan can increase the amount of people using the area to educate and help with the UNT community as well as its surrounding people. • This is an increase of facilities labor money because the trail is mowed and maintained about 4 times a year. The concept of the trail was to cut it down once so that you know that there is a trail but be stomped down by the individuals running on it. • At the 3 year point the WMGF will cease funding for this project.
12:22	Discussion	<p>~BYOB Plan~</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are unsure of the vendor’s sustainability commitments and how they create the materials for their products which causes a conflict. A local or sustainable vendor is preferred or more research should go into the desired vendor, Groggy Dog. • Doug Campbell: Do people generally bring these bottles back? Possibly encouraging students bring their own bottles instead of just providing new bottles each time • <i>Suggestion:</i> UPC and other event keepers keep track of the amount of people that are bringing the water bottles back to future events • <i>Amendment:</i> place “bring your bottle back” on the actual bottles • <i>Amendment:</i> Possibly expand their budget to give flexibility of costs for the higher quality bottles • To the committee’s understanding more aluminum bottles will not be purchased. The initial amount of bottles will be purchased, as listed in the budget, and will be passed out at future events until they are fully allocated. • *MOTION TO APPROVE WITH FUNDING EXPANSION AMENDMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS AND INCREASED MARKETING* • <i>*Proposal Passes* Opposed:</i> Doug Campbell and Dan Spears
12:37	Discussion	<p>~Community Garden~</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNT Facilities as well as Gary Cocke have assisted in the design and planning for garden to ensure its success.



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gardener Facilitator will have the training and experience prior to receiving the position and Gary has the resources to educate to ensure that the gardening is done well. • Some areas are intentionally not utilized in the expectation of further expansion. • It is recommended that the organization looks at other community gardens before the committee passes this proposal. • Including the garden would make assist making UNT a Texas tier 1 university as other tier 1 universities have. • Plots will be given to student organizations and will do their own maintenance for the food grown which will be used for themselves or donated. • *MOTION TO APPROVE WITH THE AMENDMENT OF LOOKING AT OTHER COMMUNITY GARDEN MODELS ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES* • *Proposal passes* <i>Opposed:</i> Matthew Fry
1:00	Discussion	<p>~Wildflowers @ Discovery Park~</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestion to build the wildflowers in phases other the years rather than adding all the sections at once. • It's hard to see this project being continued and utilized for further semesters. • UNT Facilities will be doing additional maintenance in the future however it was not fully discussed on the parameters of this maintenance. UNT Grounds has agreed to leave this area alone so the seeds can grow. • Graduate Student Council has been interested in adding exercise equipment in this area which could be a joint proposal. • *MOTION TO APPROVE* • *Proposal does not pass* (9-2 vote) • Sent back with recommendations of other locations, built in phases for the project's growth, and integrate academic programs into the proposal.
1:06	Adjourn.	