PWR SWATeam Minutes

3.7.2016

BIF at 5pm

**Attendees**:

1. Bart Bartels
2. Karen Hodgin Jones
3. Warren Lavey
4. Rachel Baits
5. Morgan Johnston
6. Dilip Chhajed
7. Alexia Bedolla
8. Jessica Tran

**Absent**: Marcy Wright

**Call to Order**

**Old Business:**

1. EPS densifier- Bart
   1. Received densifier and is currently at CRI inc., hasn’t been used yet
   2. Ready for collection whenever enough is collected. Trying to see how much can be collected from the community for CRI.
2. Nitrile glove recycling - Morgan
   1. Trailer is coming on Thursday
   2. Expansion – we do have signage
      1. We can tie in with green labs conservation project
      2. Energy Conservation SWATeam could look into this
3. Battery recycling
   1. Student is involved with expanding battery recycling on campus. Looking at where to drop off A LOT of batteries.
   2. Individual buildings could pay small fee to collect couple times of years. $10 a month. Single use batteries don’t need to be tracked since they’re not hazardous waste. Reusable batteries do and can be recycled for free
   3. Can’t recycle single use batteries through campus. Need someone to accept bulk drop off.
      1. Morgan: The place where we buy the $84 buckets offer bigger buckets for more money.
      2. Uneasy to store large amount of batteries for long time. Urbana won’t take them since they just got big load from us beforehand through Illini Union.
      3. Morgan: We could put a fee on buying single use batteries if they didn’t want to buy rechargeable batteries. The fees could pay for collection and shipment.
4. Ozone project - Morgan
   1. Vender suggested green cleaning through ozone technology and reached out to DIA and Housing and Campus Rec to participate.
      1. Brian Farber doing pilot test of system and is working with ISTC on it.
   2. Bart: Ozonate water is a sanitizer. In food processing, ozone is the way to go because we could use ozonated water to sanitize and doesn’t affect taste or food in general. Ozone dissipates and you’re left with water.
   3. Being misrepresented because ozone can dissipate quickly. Not effective to mop with because ozone leaves in 6 min and then you’re left with only water in the bucket.
   4. New trials suggest ozone stays on longer. Study could be done to capture water at different time intervals and see how long ozone stays
      1. Communicate with Brian Farber to see how good it’ll be. At the end of the study, will have Brian come to the meeting, show results, and we’ll make a decision of whether to go through with this.
   5. Dilip: Are there health effects?
      1. Bart: Ozonated water shouldn’t have health affects because the water is in closed loop system. The dissipation of ozonated water doesn’t affect air quality. It’s in aqueous format (not gaseous) so can kill all bacteria.
         1. Ozone levels not enough to affect atmosphere. There are reports on effectiveness of killing germs. Question is how long does ozone remain in water.
5. Waste hauling research – Karen
   1. Research is wrapping up, so far all of student housing done.
   2. Union contracts outside venter, does not use F&S.
      1. There are 3 buildings that Tracey Osby collects recycling from but not garbage which include Bielfeldt, Atkins, and the Union.
      2. Morgan: We don’t have reports on how full compactor is at Union when truck comes by to pick trash up. We should look into this and include in report
6. Waste hauling research
   1. Report is not getting done and is now 2.5 months late. It should be out this month, Morgan needs raw data.
   2. Bin labels finally being seen. Law building has them!

New Business:

1. Environmental preferences for university purchases financed by federal grants
   1. Warren: trying to move forward with procurement. Had meeting with Dwayne Elmor.
   2. Law student involved with strengthening language on RFP.
      1. Having a gathering with purchasing people in early April. Maybe law student can give talk at conference to purchasing people.
      2. Idea came up of people buying under federal grants where agencies obligated to buy only products that meet certain standards. Federal grant recipients supposed to be applying similar standards. But, is it enforced?
      3. Supposed to have written practice procedures relating to environmentally preferred purchasing.
         1. Might help us get more federal grant since we’re meeting standards
   3. We should create a database to take inventory of all the items
      1. Need to figure out what students/student groups could support making database/website with state of Illinois. They could put up pictures of every item.
      2. Come up with proposal for next semester. Discuss recommendation next meeting.
2. Jessica Tran: Compost on campus
   1. Bloomington, Midwest Fiber banned paper from going into compost. Can’t do zero waste event. Closest place would be Peoria, $18 a yard
   2. View is that compost project is hard to scale up. We need 2-3 30 gallon containers from Busey-Evans weekly and they haven’t figured out optimal temperature for worms, too moist or dry.
   3. Don’t think it’s good to expand yet, nothing concrete.
3. Bart: Construction/demolition beginning this summer.
   1. Facility is opening up in Urbana, Hanson Recycling.
   2. Campus could piggyback onto this, carpet recycling could be possibility.
4. Bart: Contacted last week with group interested in kick the bag campaign
   1. Conversation is about how to handle reduction of plastic bags on campus, previously banning bags wasn’t very successful.
   2. Maybe adding fee is a possibility such as 10 cents a bag
   3. Would have to be with food venders on campus. Will talk about later
5. Meeting frequency
   1. Since we have sent in many recommendations and haven’t seen movement, might be better to meet every month meeting
   2. Everyone is in agreement since no big projects are going on
   3. Morgan: Put forth proposal to SSC to educate on recycling in buildings, in the process of what should and shouldn’t go in. Not sure when money for that will be put in place.

**Conclude meeting.**

**Next meeting - April 4th, 2016**