These minutes are for a meeting held by the USFSM Sustainability Green Team on 5/27/14 from 2-3pm in A205.


Minutes:

Ms. Lee welcomed attendees to the meeting of the USFSM Sustainability Green Team (SGT).

Mr. Clithero shared a brochure and poster about the gopher tortoises and their preserves on our campus. The first gopher tortoise inventory was completed in 2004 and found 18 tortoises on campus, some with a respiratory disease that prompted the creation of the preserves. See the Copy Center for copies or more information.

Mr. Copeland reported that the pedestrian/bike trail at the rear of campus has been completed. This trail will connect with the “Sarasota Baywalk” once New College completes their portion, winding through the Crosley estate and connecting to Uplands Boulevard. The group discussed partnering with Student Government to place signage or artwork along the pathway.

Ms. Summers shared that World Environment Day, hosted by the United Nations, is June 5th and will host many events around Sarasota including a community forum at Mote Marine Laboratory. Find events here: https://www.scgov.net/WED/Pages/WEDEvents.aspx.

Ms. Summers shared a SGT event in planning entitled “Small Group, Big Impact”. The event will take place in early September and will include highlights from USFSM’s sustainability progress, the Anna Maria Historic Green Village and LEED design panel discussion, and a USFSM chiller plant tour. The event will be open to USFSM and the community.

Ms. Summers also shared that on June 21st, Colonial Oaks Park will host a Community Orchard Festival and will include education, a raffle of fruit tree plots, a tour, birdhouse building, and a bat house installation.

Mrs. Krueger shared that the campus book recycling program, in conjunction with the bookstore, is actively reselling and recycling old books (instead of simply discarding them).
Books that cannot be sold by the bookstore are donated to OnePlanet, who then distributes or recycles them.

Mrs. Krueger also shared that approximately 89% of textbooks are available for rent by students instead of purchase, and this allows books to be reused over many semesters and reduces cost for students. Many textbooks are also offered as e-books through the bookstore.

Mr. Copeland shared progress on the recycling/waste diversion project and the group discussed proposed locations of bins, bin design and aesthetics, costs to implement, possible funding sources, and other possible challenges to implementation.

Mr. Copeland also shared that Facilities, for the Silver LEED certification being pursued, has written and reviewed with the consultants a series of policies that will guide USFSM post-certification towards continued sustainable practices.

Mr. Sidoti shared that Information Technology is in the planning stages for removal of several old computer machines.

Ms. Lee shared the initial outline for the USFSM SGT permanent webspace. The webspace will include a main page describing the group and defining sustainability, a meeting minutes archive page, and a recycling/waste diversion information page. The webspace will also be used for announcements and to highlight accomplishments, such as the Gopher Tortoise brochure and poster.

In closing, Ms. Lee thanked those that attended and shared her optimism at the progress that has been made by the group in such a short time period.

The next meeting will be held June 24th from 2-3pm in TBD.