

Rancho Santiago Community College District
Rancho Innovation and Sustainability Committee

Meeting Notes

June 20, 2012

Members:	Raúl Rodríguez	Absent
	Peter Hardash	Present
	Steve Kawa	Present
	Jim Kennedy	Absent
	Jose Vargas	Present
	Kimo Morris	Absent
	Lisa McKowan-Bourguignon	Absent
	Doug Deaver	Present
	Michael Taylor	Absent
	Tammy Cottrell	Present
	Laurene Lugo	Present
	Jana Cruz	Absent
	Hugh Nguyen	Absent
	Zack Ziade	Absent
Also Attending:		
	Ruth Cossio-Muniz	
	Elisabeth Pechs	
	Maricela Sandoval	

1. District and College Sustainability Plan

Vice Chancellor Hardash, chairing the meeting in Chancellor Rodríguez's absence, reported that a meeting with the consultant who will make a presentation on sustainability will be held in the fall. Mr. Hardash also announced that at its June 18, 2012 meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the placement of a bond measure on the November 2012 ballot. Funds raised from this bond measure would be in support of facility improvements at Santa Ana College.

2. Current Efforts

Mr. Hardash stated that sustainability is taken into consideration with everything that is done in the district, including new building design. He provided an update on the efforts made during the last five years to consider sustainability which included:

2. Current Efforts (continued)

- a. Vehicles – where possible the district purchases hybrid vehicles
- b. Paper – research was conducted about the possibility of using recycled Xerox paper throughout the district. Paper that meets copier standards cost 25% more and the decision was made not to proceed because of the cost. Recycled toilet paper proved too rough.
- c. Solar – consultants have conducted audits on the use of solar in district facilities and it has been determined that ways to use the technology are very limited. In addition, the payback on the investment is 20-21 years, about the same as the life of the solar panels.
- d. LED Lighting – the district has found that LED lighting is extremely energy efficient and the payback on the investment is 3 years. The district will be implementing a change to LED lighting beginning with installation in a few areas for demonstration purposes. The district is also negotiating with Edison to obtain incentives for making this change.
- e. CCC Investor Owned Utility Group – the district is a member of this group which provides rebates when installing energy saving equipment. These rebates will offset the costs charged to the bond and allow the bond funds to go further.
- f. Central Plant – the district has had preliminary work done by engineers to install a central plant, which is a chilled water line that is connected to buildings. It is a more efficient system and much less expensive to run. While an expensive initial capital investment, it produces significant savings on energy usage. Engineers have analyzed a central plant at SAC and will be going to bid soon. Engineers will begin work soon at SCC.

3. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Transportation – the group is working on a survey to be sent out to district employees and students, as well as doing research. From this information, they will make recommendations.
- b. Facilities – contacts have been made with the Water Department on possible water conservation and subcommittee will report back; at SCC the Coast Keeper Garden teaches the public about drought resistant plants.
- c. Recycling – research has shown that there is a cost to all recycling services; more research is being done and subcommittee will report back. It was suggested that the students may want to take on this effort to support their clubs.
- d. Communication – work is being done to create one survey of all subcommittees, it was suggested that monthly themes relating to sustainability be created and a website be created.

Mr. Hardash asked that ***all subcommittees meet at least once with whomever is available before the July 18 RISC meeting.*** Committee Chairs were assigned and a revised Subcommittee Assignments list is attached. ***All were asked to advise Debra Gerard (gerard_debra@rscdd.edu) when subcommittee meetings are scheduled.***