STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY SENATE

Campus Environment Committee

Meeting of May 11, 2022, 1:00-2:30 pm
Virtual meeting on Zoom.

In attendance: Ria Bhutra, Tiffany Freidman, Gary Kaczmarczyk, Clifford Knee, Mona Ramonetti, Richard Stein, Fred Walter, Thomas Wilson (Chair),

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Chair Tom Wilson, who welcomed attendees.

Wilson requested consideration of the minutes of the meeting of April 13th. Tiffany Freidman moved and Ria Bhutra seconded to approve the minutes as submitted. Without objection the motion passed.

Wilson reported that he has engaged the Executive Committee regarding the proposed “Facilities Working Group”. He communicated that UEC and CAPRA have different interests and different mandates, and having University Facilities only meet with a combined group would make the Senate’s work more difficult and less efficient.

Discussion ensued with EC liaison Richard Stein regarding the working group proposal. It was pointed out that Dean Tufts, who made the proposal, has left the University. Gary Kaczmarczyk stated that he and Clifford Knee represent the University at meetings and can get us in touch with the right people. Tiffany Freidman stated her appreciation for their assistance.

Earthstock was held this month, smaller than past years but in person again. Malcolm Bowman presented an oral report of highlights of the event.

Wilson asked permission to record the remainder of the meeting for later preparation of minutes. There were no objections and recording was turned on.

Discussion ensued on projects to be undertaken this summer:

a) Report on the University Clean Energy Master Plan. Wilson will ask if Christopher Sellers will lead this effort.

b) Ashley Schiff Preservation efforts. Wilson will attempt to get a meeting with President McInnis and stakeholders. Wilson will be the lead, Friedman said she would be interested in participating.

c) Prepare to present work of the committee to the University Senate at the September or October meeting.

Discussion of meeting times for Summer and Fall. Chair will request everyone’s structural conflicts for the fall. Committee will not meet in June but may meet in July and/or August to review projects and fall presentation.

Discussion of coronavirus pandemic: SAC center PCR testing is running very smoothly, COVID seems to be hitting people randomly but cases seem to be mild and antivirals are widely available.

Freidman: who to ask about COVID protocols for summer programs? Kaczmarczyk will get answer to that.

Walter: cases are up to 1,500 per day for Long Island 2-3 times what it as a few months ago. Probably an undercount because of home test kits. Wilson: are doctors required to report cases in patients who test positive on a home test. Kaczmarczyk: not sure.

Wilson asked if there was any old or new business. There being none, Wilson thanked everyone on the committee for their service, wished everyone well on giving or taking finals, and hoped they would have a great summer.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Wilson