



Student Environmental Community for Sustainability

Minutes of the Meeting of Student Environmental Community for Sustainability (SECS)

Date: Tuesday, February 05, 2008

Time: 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Place: Board Room A219, Confederation College

Attendees: Spencer Laing, Tom Casey, Riel Bouchard, Robert Carty, Pauline (Surname), Cassandra Roy, Dave Finneli, Andrew Joseph

Late Arrivals: None

Agenda Items: 1) Discussion of Derrick Jensen's presentation at Finlandia Club 2) Introduction of Andrew Joseph, 2nd Year Aboriginal Law student; member of Anishnabe College Council. 3) Budget; potential \$500.00 allocation of funds 4) Fundraising 5) Members Motions.

Discussion of Derrick Jensen's Presentation at Finlandia Club:

Pauline: Expected more discussion of the natural environment, but liked his approach of focussing on civilization first and applying that to the environment.

Spencer: Thought he was a good motivational speaker, but asserts that his publisher does not have sustainable practices which brings into question what Jensen does as an individual for the environment. Thinks his ideas about blowing things up indicate too much blame and that he should focus more on what he can do as an individual.

Pauline: Not his responsibility as an activist to stop what his publisher is doing but to get his message out.

Riel: He has a choice on the individual level to decide his business relationships.

Pauline: Asks if criticizing Jensen helps the cause.

Spencer: Positive action is better than negative, however it seemed that Jensen talked negatively and critically throughout.

Cassandra: It's really important people here a message about quantifiable (non abstract?) things; people don't like to be lectured at. Says, it's justifiable to point out hypocrisy, and that positive action begets positive action. Expresses concern that his behaviour might be contributing to capitalism.

Riel: Points out that it's easier to attack than to reflect on oneself.

Andrew Joseph: Has visited Jensen at his home and says it's an example of sustainable living with geothermal, wind and solar energy.

Spencer: Notes that steps should be taken to stop the greenwashing of people by industry; adds that oil companies need to be shut down.

<Someone points out that most products, even non petroleum based products, require a substantial amount of petroleum during manufacture and distribution.>

Riel: Parallels peoples reliance on oil to peoples addiction to caffeine.

Spencer: Toronto based Zenn Cars are not even sold in Canada; illegal on our streets.

Cassandra: The US is so Oil reliant that they even use petroleum based fertilizers on their farmland.

Reil: We are taking technological baby steps towards a positive future but those steps are being fuelled by petroleum and coal and other unsustainable practices.

Spencer: <Calls meeting>

Budget and Fundraising


There is a potential allocation of funds by SUCCI for the rest of this semester in the amount of \$500.00; the following year there is a potential for an allocation of \$1000.00

Riel: Creates motion to apply for Thirsty Thursdays.

Andrew: Volunteers to talk to Andrew Belanger about Thirsty Thursdays.

Spencer: Spoke of potential fundraiser at Armanis; and with SUCCI's deal with Roxies for Fridays; Cosmic Granolas willingness to do a show; has friends that can do a hip-hop show.

Motions:



Spencer: Recycling on Campus Initiative; speak to Ron the facilities manager; report back to group with feasibility report. <Put to vote, passed, responsibility delegated to Spencer>

Spencer: Pressuring Aramark; establish relationship between Aramark and SECS. <Put to vote, passed, responsibility delegated to Robert>

Spencer: Green the North Eco-Conference @ Confederation College; find out if SUCCI can gain free admittance at the conference; explore the possibility of getting a booth as well as be given time to speak at the conference, a youth component and greater involvement. <Put to vote, passed, responsibility delegated to Andrew Joseph to speak with John Hendel and to Pauline to speak with Green at Work.>

Spencer: Staff Faculty Advisor; Riel spoke with Chandra Rogers sic. but she is a part time teacher. <Action to be taken on this motion: finish group registration process>.

Pauline: Takingitglobal.org; create an account with the organisation as an effective tool for the group. <Put to vote, passed, responsibility delegated to Pauline>

Robert: Double motion to make a letterhead and prepare a letter to Aramark. <Put to vote, passed, responsibility delegated to Robert>

Riel: Video about Stuff next meeting; proposes to show a video about Stuff next meeting. <Put to vote, passed, responsibility delegated to Riel.>

Minutes recorded by Robert Carty