

**San Diego Miramar College
Environmental Stewardship Subcommittee**

Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2020; 2:15-3:15 in L-108

Members: *Gail (Teresa) Warner, Pablo Martin, Andy Lowe, Alex Mata, Virginia Naters, Betty-Anne Reichard, AnnaLiza Soriano Manzo, Rachel Halligan, Sayeh Dehestani, Liz Hubert*, Evelyn Ono Vineberg*, CL Caffrey*, Melissa Martinez*, Sheila Madrak*, William Wyatt, David Nguyen*, Janina Moretti*, Samashti Patel*, Evie Matthews***

* Non-voting Members

** Guests

1) Call to order

2) Approval of agenda

3) Approval of minutes from last meeting

4) Old Business

1. District Sustainability Committee Update (Sheila and Pablo)
 - a. We had two productive meetings since December and we are collaborating on a new board policy that we can all agree on
 - b. There seems to be a clear focus on environmental sustainability and stewardship
 - c. When we vote as a committee, we want to ensure that each college has at least one vote
 - d. CE: we are hoping that they will get involved; Waverly is reaching out to them, Pablo can follow up with her about this FYI: CE's ESC has apparently been absorbed back into their Safety and Facilities committee
2. Earth Week Planning Subcommittee
 - a. We'll plan to meet with the third Tuesday of the month
 - b. We need to submit a budget ASAP—Pablo will look into my notes from Jamie about funding
 - c. CL encouraged getting student feedback
 - d. Janina shared the SD350 international day of action
 - e. Each of the colleges' committees or clubs has shown interest in a collaborative Earth Week
 - f. Evelyn added via email, "I mentioned that it would be great to get all of Miramar College involved in the annual iNaturalist BioBlitz. SDTT will be involved with the

- Friends of Los Peñasquitos Ranch (Tenaya may be involved with this? but I'll have to check with her.) around Earth Week in April.”
- g. Pablo: speak briefly to the ASG from 9-11 AM in K-209 or thereabouts
 - i. It could be great to combine Earth Week with Spring Fest

5) New Business

1. Reimbursement for new water dispensers:
 - a. unanimously approved
2. Discuss collaboration with Student Services to introduce students to careers and academic programs with a sustainability focus:
 - a. This is an idea from Tonia Teresh: If you are interested, there could be an opportunity for ESC and/or your department to collaborate with Student Services to introduce students to careers and academic programs with a sustainability focus (or how to incorporate sustainability into the career path of choice) – from education, law, engineering, activism, etc. I would be happy to connect you to the faculty coordinators in transfer, career and work-based learning who are working on these career/major exploration projects.
 - b. We would like her to come and speak to the group
3. Monthly Presentation Series for February:
 - a. Monthly themes:
 - i. transportation (different departments on campus could discuss it—Diesel Tech, Business, Bio-tech to discuss biofuels)
 - ii. buildings (architecture, art, biology and bio-mimicry, engineering)
 - iii. diet/nutrition
 - iv. Black History Month
 - v. Mental Health Awareness Month
 - b. Departmental/disciplinary involvement—bring in as many departments as possible
 - c. Pablo will coordinate the next panel on impacts on the African-American community (social/economic justice)
4. Cross-campus collaborations with other environmental groups and clubs in the district
5. Vernal Pools: Evelyn wants to work with the natural resource manager, Mark Beringer, with the district
 - a. More details from Evelyn: “At the ESC meeting, I mentioned speaking to Mark earlier about visiting Miramar’s vernal pool and reported that he was interested and willing to have a look at our site. At the ESC meeting on Tuesday, Sheila suggested that I copy her and Andy (other interested parties) on an email to Mark re:visiting our campus at the beginning of March. ***On Wednesday, I mentioned this to Mark, and he seemed opened to visiting early next month. This is one of my to-do's now, and I hope to send the email off this weekend. I also mentioned a link I sent to the ESC in email (<https://www.ccuri.org>) to the

Community College Undergraduate Research Initiative, which has community-college level students involved in bio. research projects, in particular John Van Niel <https://www.ccuri.org/copy-of-diana-spencer-1> at Finger Lakes Community College analyzing data from camera traps. This could be a starting place for us to get ideas about how to best capture animals in the VP.

- b. Natural History Museum hosts a three-day bio-blitz (iNaturalist)
 - c. Andy will help lead this and has asked for help (Pablo offered to assist)
 - d. Sheila and other biology faculty are doing vernal pool observation as a pilot for one of their courses
 - i. Pablo suggested that we have a panel focus on this at the end of the semester—CL mentioned looking for a documentary, there are also islands that are in danger of sinking
 - e. The vernal pools are under the auspices of Facilities
 - f. Andy, Sheila, and Evelyn are going to coordinate via email about this with the Biology Classes and Natural Resource Manager
 - g. After the meeting, Evelyn added: "At ESC, I also recapped what Andy had written in email to ESC re:the Bio. Dept. investing in and placing a camera trap in the VP area. Betty thought photos of wildlife that passes through the VP could excite student interest in the area. I totally agree with that. I mentioned that I visited the VP during the winter break and found more coyote scat (as I have regularly found there in past few years). I [also] reiterated the notion of completing the plant labeling project that Jason Librande began (Andy and Betty talked about the benefits of this). Sheila mentioned that she's aware that there are lots of invasives in the VP and need for restoration of the VP. **I didn't mention this, but I suspect that Brett Bell needs to be involved and to be apprised of any kind of restoration work ESC plans to initiate in the VP area."
6. Pablo: look into why we can't have signs on any walls and how that could be changed (so we can start putting up signs to promote environmental concerns, etc.)

6) Reports

7) Roundtable

8) Adjournment