

Meeting Minutes  
Plant Utilization and Planning Committee  
**May 20, 2019**  
3-4:30 p.m. - 272 Hillman

1. Call to order

*Kathy Kelly called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.*

2. Approval of April Meeting Minutes

*After committee review of the draft meeting minutes there was unanimous approval of meeting minutes as written by all PUP committee members in attendance.*

3. Update on Pitt Sustainability FY 2019

- Definition of sustainability – balancing equity, environment, and economics so that current and future generations can thrive.
- Monthly Newsletter
- Regularly updated web site and active social media: [Sustainable.pitt.edu](http://Sustainable.pitt.edu) / [@SustainablePitt](https://twitter.com/SustainablePitt)
- Sustainability Committees around campus
  - University Sustainability Committee – includes representatives across campus & regional campuses; full membership = <https://www.sustainable.pitt.edu/university-of-pittsburgh-sustainability-committee/>
  - Faculty Sustainability Task Force for Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation
  - Facilities' Energy and Sustainability Committee
  - Department Green Teams: Athletics, Facilities, Katz Business, Student Affairs
  - Pitt Bradford Sustainability Committee.
- Pitt is a formal member of Sustainable Development Solutions Network, joining the U.S. Chapter as one of the first members in early 2019. Faculty members represent the university across 12 thematic categories. U
- Office of Sustainability established in 2018 as University-wide Sustainability centroid.
- The Student Office of Sustainability was established in 2014 and is very active with 25 affiliated student organizations.
- Two Campus Green Guides:
  - Staff Green Guide - materials, waste management, purchasing, facilities
  - Student Green Guide - student clubs, courses, being updated by SOOS
- FY19 Acquired several sustainability certifications and badges
  - AASHE STARS *Silver*
  - Princeton Review Green Guide to Colleges
  - Sierra Magazine Cool Schools 2018
  - EPA Green Power Partner (Top 30!)
  - 2 Sustainable Pittsburgh Restaurant Gold designations (Market Central & Perch)
  - Bike Friendly University *Bronze*

- Sustainable Pittsburgh Challenge = Won Top Performer, University category for the fourth competition running. A lot of points included engagement and partnering in the community.
- Pitt Sustainability Awards for the 5th year running.
  - Faculty: Dr. Emily Elliott
  - Staff: Corey Flynn (Pitt Nutrition) and Melissa Warthen (First Year Programs)
  - Students: Forest Goebel and Isabelle Ouyang
  - Student Group: Real Food Challenge
- Pitt Green Office Program Pilot in Spring 2019 – 20 entities in the pilot; 16 able to achieve one of 3 achievement levels
  - Developed by Student Affairs
  - Office of Sustainability will take it over in Fall 2019 with more formal roll out so anyone on campus can participate; minimum of two people to entire departmental participation.
- Pitt Green Laboratory program in development.
  - Pieces already in implementation / pilot, including glove recycling (7 locations), shut the sash deployment to reduce energy usage and increase safety (Benedum, Chevron, and Dept. of medicine. Determining what works at Pitt.
- Materials and Waste
  - Recyclemania (Spring 2019) - game day challenge, tours, hunger banquet, waste audit
  - Grounds to Grow On - Supra/Office Depot offer a free box for collect Keurig K-cups [Sustainable.pitt.edu/coffee](http://Sustainable.pitt.edu/coffee)
  - Compostable k-pods also okay on campus (see link above for offerings from Tayst & SF Bay)
  - University Signage has been finalized for recycling, compostables, & landfill. Will be downloadable from the Pitt Sustainability website.
  - Big push on campus to compost.
    - The University pays a little less for compost than for trash
    - Four current locations to drop off compost: 153 Benedum, 510 WPU, Pitt Farmer's Market, and Eureka Bldg.
    - 5 more locations in Fall: Barco, Benedum Hall (every floor), Forbes Tower, Posvar Hall, and WPU (every floor)
  - Working with Pitt departments in leased buildings to ensure recycling bins are placed, collected, and being recycled
  - Due to complications with the Market Central dock, there is not composting in the Towers (though Dining has reduced food waste, rescues food, and diverts food waste to a graywater digester)
  - Drug Takeback locations on campus: Public Safety and University Pharmacy at Nordenberg Hall.
- Pitt Serves
  - 9,921 volunteers
  - 45,175 total hours of service
  - 115 community partners

- Pitt Pantry
  - Located in Bellfield Church
  - Available to anyone on Pitt Campus
- Food Systems
  - Pitt uses 15,000 plastic bags, 17,000 disposable cups, 52,000 disposable to-go containers per week.
  - Initiatives to combat waste include: BYO[Bag], BYO[Mug], and Choose to Reuse programs (a machine in WPU that provides a green useable container for \$0.99). Choose to Reuse is expanding to 3+ new locations in Fall.
- Real Food Pitt at Market Central
  - 2018: 21% real food purchased
  - Largest real food item sourced locally is chicken
  - Goal is 25% real food by 2025 across campus
- Farmers Market @ Pitt
  - Faculty, staff, and students can pay cash, credit, use Panther Funds, or Dining Dollars
- Undergraduate Certificate in Sustainability
  - 130 students from 25 different departments
  - Students work on open-ended projects in interdisciplinary teams with external stakeholders on sustainability challenges
  - Spring 2019 capstone projects included aquaculture, electric vehicle use and renewables demand, Homewood hydroponics, Millie's Ice Cream, Montana Energy, and Robotany.
- New in Fall 2019
  - First year students receive a pre-orientation model and sustainability welcome kits
  - Sustainability is included as opportunity for all first year seminars
- Coming soon:
  - More LEED and WELL building certifications
  - Projects over \$5M will be LEED certified or better
  - Bigelow Boulevard: green stormwater infrastructure and better accommodations for pedestrians and bikes
- Transportation and Mobility
  - Pitt commuter split: Bus 34%, 7% walk, 5% bike, and 40% drive alone,
  - 4 new Pitt electric box trucks
- Energy and Emissions
  - On Track to reach goal of reducing Pitt Greenhouse Gas Emissions 50% by 2030
  - Pitt Hydro Commitment (25% of University utilization)
  - Goal to reduce water use intensity by 50%; Pitt's water usage is above average. Looking into retrofit, irrigation, and reusing water
- 2019 Stewardship Actions
  - Tree canopy (~3,000 trees... grow canopy by 50%), lawn reduction, bee houses, rain garden addition
  - Goats are returning June 11<sup>th</sup>

### New Business

- Nothing to report

### Announcements

- Last meeting is a tour of Thaw Hall followed by a social at the University Club
- Chair elections for next year – if anyone has an interest in being chair or co-chair, please let Kathy know

### Adjournment

- Kathy Kelly adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.

*Next meeting:* Monday, June 17 and PUP social