

Carbon Neutrality Task Force Meeting Minutes
Friday, February 18, 2022

Members: Cindy Paavola, Kathy Richards, Mike Bath, Sarah Mittlefehldt, Bethany Beavers.

Absent/Excused: Gavin Leach, Brandon Sager, Jim Thams, Jes Thompson, Randy Klitzke.

1. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes-Did not have a quorum to vote on. Will review at next meeting.
 - a. February 4, 2022
2. Agreed upon updated overall goals of the Carbon Neutrality Plan.
 - Achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 in the most **financially responsible** way possible.
 - Identify top opportunities for working toward carbon neutrality.
 - Provide opportunity for academics to be involved with initiatives.
 - Develop authentic carbon neutrality plan with transparent measurement and reporting system.
3. Reviewed and provided feedback on the first draft of the University Strategic Plan Update for Focus Area 4: Sustainability. Citations will be provided for survey results.
4. Next Scheduled Meeting: March 4, 2022, 11 am
5. Schedule Next Meeting
 - a. Future Agenda Items
 - i. Prioritize areas of focus based on cost and impact
 - ii. Determine how progress will be measured for each goal
 - iii. Experience exchange with potential local partners-City of Marquette, Marquette Board of Light and Power
 - iv. Review of campus space use analysis process-Jim Thams
 - v. Review progress on assignments from Dec. 3rd meeting
 1. University-owned Vehicles: Jim Thams and Mike Bath will provide inventory and annual fuel usage.
 2. University-owned Grounds Equipment: Jim Thams will provide inventory and annual fuel usage.
 3. Trees: Jim Thams will work with Sarah Mittlefehldt to have a student group/class inventory trees on university property via GIS app.
 - vi. Review potential carbon emission reduction initiatives presented by Black & Veatch tentatively at the March 4th meeting.

Reference Information:

Northern 2030 Sustainability Plan Recommendation regarding Carbon Neutrality

Strive for Carbon Neutrality (*updated by Carbon Neutrality Task Force to be broader*)

- a. Renewable Energy Investment (transition to at least 35% renewable energy by 2030)
- b. Improvement of infrastructure and energy efficiency in existing and future facilities on campus
- c. Replace 50% of NMU's current transportation fleet with electric/hybrid vehicles by 2030, with complete transition by 2050

Established Criteria for Analyzing Initiatives Proposed for Carbon Neutrality Plan

Top Priorities

- b. Financial Viability
 - i. Consider Life Cycle Costs; Total Cost of Ownership
 - ii. Opportunity Cost
 - iii. Other Potential Financial Resources/Subsidies
- c. Tie to Academics
- d. Emissions Reduction Impact
- e. Measurability & Trackability
 - i. Probability of Success
 2. Behavioral Change/Extent of Campus Participation Required

Logistics

- a. Product Life Cycle/Proven Technology
- b. Maintenance Impact

Extra Benefits

- a. Local Economic Benefit
- b. Recruitment/Marketing Impact/Visibility
- c. Help Achieve Energy Independence
- d. Community engagement/social impact
- e. Things that are "distinctly Northern"

Areas of Focus for Sustainability Plan and Carbon Neutrality Plan

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Waste Minimization/Diversion

Recycling

Composting

City Water Use Reduction

Storm Water Diversion

Education & Awareness

Employee Educator Program

Promoting Bicycle Use

Purchasing Policies

Sustainability Curriculum

Research

Food & Dining

Green Fund Application Review

Wellbeing & Work

Assessing Diversity and Equity

Communication

Local Partnerships

CARBON NEUTRALITY PLAN

Carbon Emissions-*Need Greenhouse Gas Inventory*

Energy Efficiency/Conservation-Electric and Gas-*Part of CEMP Process*

Sourcing of Electricity-*Part of CEMP Process*

Natural Gas for Ripley Plant-*Part of CEMP Process*

Natural Gas-Heating for Other Buildings-*Part of CEMP Process*

Refrigerants-*Part of CEMP Process*

Renewable Energy-*Part of CEMP Process*

Renewable Energy Credits-*Part of CEMP Process*

Air Conditioning-*Part of CEMP Process*

Natural Gas for Cooking-*Impacted by CEMP Process*

University-owned Vehicles

University-owned Ground Equipment

Trees

Building Construction

Space Utilization

Communication

Local Partnerships

Faculty/Staff/Student Commuting