

**Valdosta State University – Environmental Issues Committee**

*Agenda – Thursday, March 17th, 2015 at 8:15 pm in Bailey Science Center Room 2023*

- A. Approve Minutes of the January 30, 2015 meeting
- B. Announcements:
  - a. T. Grove is leaving for Antarctica on April 3-July 2. If anyone is interested:  
theresagrove.blogspot.com
  - b. Other?
- C. Reports
  - a. Campus Beautification
  - b. Energy Conservation
  - c. Recycling
  - d. Sustainability Committee
  - e. Master Planning Committee
- D. Old Business
  - a. What is the status of replacing parking lot lights with LED bulbs?
- E. New Business
  - a. Any update on when the assistant director of landscape and grounds will be re-advertised?
  - b. Is VSU completing the objectives of from the campus grounds master plan (see attached).
  - c. Other?
- F. Adjourn



## Targeted Sub-Committee Report Template

1. **Names of Co-chairs:** Brad Bergstrom and Bobby Flowers
2. **Targeted Theme and Goal:** Finance-Grounds: Improve campus grounds to effectively provide a high quality education and experience to all students in achieving their academic, professional, and personal goals.
3. **Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities Analysis** – Provide the top three most salient items for each category.

### Strengths

- Natural features: remnant grove of original longleaf pines (trees 150-300 yrs old, aka “Heritage Pines” or Special Management Zone #1 of TPMP), including Whitehead Camellia Trail and camellia garden; two campus creeks with variously forested floodplains; natural woodland with ropes fitness course; native-landscape demonstration project near Bailey Science Center; newly established “Pinetum” (arboretum of native pines).
- VSU Tree Preservation and Maintenance Policy (TPMP) and history of cooperation between Admin/Plant and Campus Beautification and Stewardship subcommittee (CBSS) on tree preservation and new planting; Jewel Whitehead Endowment for Campus Beautification.
- Main Campus: front lawn; pedestrian mall; bicycle/multi-use trail.

### Weaknesses

- Campus is landlocked and fragmented
- Reduction in support for maintenance, upkeep of grounds
- Irrigation problems (construction disruption)

### Opportunities

- Volunteer: garden clubs (camellia maintenance), students and community members (cooperative gardens, and education/signage promoting natural features)
- External support and grants: Tree Campus USA application; stream restoration
- Acquisition of Ashley Cinemas property (and others) to relieve pressure on existing greenspace

### Threats

- Encroachment (development) and traffic (foot, vehicle) effects on greenspace



**4. Objectives, Timeline, Person Responsible, and Evaluation Method** – Provide two to six objectives and corresponding timeline, person responsible, and evaluation method. An objective is component activity/outcome that supports the university’s attainment of the goal over the five years.

	Objective	Timeline	Person Responsible	Evaluation Method
1	Fill Grounds Supervisor position with Landscape Architect	As soon as budget allows	Pat Schloss, Ray Sable	Done when filled.
2	Fully implement TPMP recommendations for Special Mgmt. Zone #1: soil aeration/ remediation; bedding/mulching of tree clusters	Ongoing	CBSS Chair + Bobby Flowers	Monitored by CBSS and EIC chairs.
3	Rebuild irrigation system, integrate with new rainwater collection system on existing bldgs. (retrofit) and new bldgs. (design features)	By 2015	Ray Sable, Marshall McLane, John Crawford	Place on agenda of Planning and Budget Council
4	Stream restoration, incl. debris removal, bank stabilization, erosion control (seek funds for former), native plantings and invasive exotic species removal	2011 through 2016	Ray Sable, Bobby Flowers, John Crawford	Monitored by CBSS and EIC, work with Grants and Contracts for funding
5	Extend native landscape demonstration project and permeable walkway through SMZ #1 (see 2 above) and other wooded areas; Develop campus educational signage, maps, brochures featuring species and systems of natural areas	By 2016	CBSS Chair, Landscape Architect	Job requirement for future landscape architect
6	Continue CBSS/Admin collaboration to guide new development away from wooded areas	Ongoing	Pat Schloss, CBSS Chair	Monitored by CBSS and EIC chairs.
7	Encourage (if not require) architects to design uses of heart pine lumber from VSU trees in renovations and new construction	Ongoing	Pat Schloss, John Crawford	Add to checklist for pre-design meetings.
8	Work with garden clubs on Camellia Trail/Garden enhancements	Ongoing	Bobby Flowers	Monitored by CBSS
9	Explore “green roof” possibilities on existing and new bldgs; collaborate with student clubs and community on community gardens	2011 through 2016	Ray Sable	Via Campus Climate Commitment (energy conservation strategy)
10	Apply for Tree Campus USA status (Arbor Day Foundation)	By Dec. 2011	CBSS Chair, Bobby Flowers	When designation awarded.