ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE MEETING

Call To Order

A Zoom virtual meeting of the Environmental Concerns Committee was held on September 21, 2020. It began at 2:04 PM and was presided by Tamera McCuen, the Environmental Concerns Committee chair.

Attendees

Voting Members in Attendance: Tamera McCuen, Scott Greene, Caleb Muckala, Timothy Smith
Ex-Officio Members in Attendance: Sarah Ballew, Brian Holderread, Ame Aziere, Zev Trachtenberg, Gary Gress, Dorothy Flowers, Laura Tontz, Dipankar Ghosh, Jake Lange, Timothy Smith, Joel Wilson, Randy Peppler

Agenda Items

I. General Business
   a. Committee Bylaws
      i. Posted on the Environmental Concerns Committee Website.
   b. Proposed time & dates for future meetings
      i. 2:00 – 3:00 pm on November 16th, February 15th, March 15th, April 19th

II. Program Presentation
   a. Protecting Oklahoma’s Biodiversity
   b. Oklahoma BioBlitz (biosurvey.ou.edu/bioblitzok); biosurvey.ou.edu/pollinators)
      i. Spring Monthlong Inventory
      ii. In coordination with the State Parks office
      iii. Citizen Science and examination of the biodiversity across Oklahoma
      iv. Approximately 400 people counting species and examining patterns across the state.
      1. Over 1261 species identified this year (!)
   v. 2021 BioBlitz: Oct. 1-3 at Roman Nose State park
   c. Oklahoma Natural Areas Registry
      i. Program to work with landowners to preserve biodiversity on private land across the state (133 landowners involved)
   d. Habitat restoration and rehabilitation
      i. Oklahoma Native Seed Library
   e. Education
      i. Field course in Conservation Biology
      ii. Beautification the OBS Lake Texoma location
III. Old Business
   a. Linking committee’s efforts to OU campuses sustainability and environmental plans
      i. Scott contacted the OU research strategic planning committee and asked that group to participate and be engaged with the ECC as well.
   b. How does the committee’s work relate to OU campus operations and strategic plan?
      i. Still on the table to consider
   c. Sarah suggested that we consider speakers for upcoming meetings
      i. Operations
      ii. Academic opportunities
      iii. Research opportunities
      iv. Student group efforts
      v. Future Guest speakers/Presentations

IV. Other Topics for Discussion
   a. Identify topics for meetings and presentations
      i. Email and suggestions to Tammy.

Our next meeting for this academic year will take place on November 16th at 2:00 PM via Zoom.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 3:02 PM.