
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of 18 March 2026

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Campus Planning and Finance Council Sustainability Committee was called to order at 10 a.m. on 18 March 2026, by Steve Bertman, chair.

Members in Attendance: Steve Bertman, Mia Breznau, Lynne Heasley, Valerian Kwigizile, Kate Martini, Steve Root, Jeff Spoelstra, Sara VanderVeen

Members Absent: Mitchell Luttermoser, Timothy Palmer

Ex Officio: LuMarie Guth

Guest: Helena St. Onge-Kissinger, undergraduate student

Quorum

A quorum was present with nine members in attendance of the six needed for a quorum.

Agenda

[MOTION] It was moved by Spoelstra, seconded by Root, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Kwigizile, seconded by Martini, to approve the minutes of 11 February as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Officer Reports

Chair Bertman did not provide a report.

Ex Officio Guth reported that Campus Planning and Finance Council (CPFC) charges will be updated. It was also noted that the CPFC will require a Year-end Report from the Sustainability Committee at its 21 April meeting.

Unfinished Business

The Sustainability Committee discussed collaborating with the Office of Information Technology (OIT) to pilot an intranet system, similar to SharePoint, to support more effective internal communication regarding campus sustainability-related projects and initiatives. The discussion also included the development of public-facing information and visualizations, such as Microsoft Power Business Intelligence or Gephi, to showcase sustainability work across campus, with the understanding that internal and external systems should function in coordination. Kwigizile referenced a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiative as an example of how Microsoft Teams can be used to create discrete communication channels. The committee agreed that identifying existing relationships across sustainability hubs should be the first step, followed by developing communication mechanisms to strengthen and expand those connections through information networks. Chair Bertman will contact OIT to explore the possibility of establishing this work as a pilot project. Spoelstra will review the potential use of Microsoft Power Business Intelligence to present the data collected for the CPFC.

New Business

Chair Bertman provided a draft Year-end Report. He reported on a recent meeting with the Faculty Senate Executive Board regarding the Climate Change Resolution passed in 2024, noting that no additional action has been taken. The Executive Board recommended adding climate change and decarbonization to the Sustainability Committee 2026-27 charges. Faculty Senate President Naugle indicated that she will communicate this concern to WMU President Kavalhuna.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by Spoelstra, seconded by Valerian, to adjourn the meeting at 11 a.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Sustainability Committee will meet next on 8 April 2026 at the Office for Sustainability.

Approval

Submitted by Lynne Heasley, Secretary

Minutes were approved on 8 April 2026.