

Greenhouse Committee Meeting Minutes – May 15, 2018

The meeting started at 9:32 a.m.

Present: Alan Christensen, Amy Hilske, Edgar Cahoon, Hector Santiago, James Schnable, Lance Meinke, Matt Anderson, Scott Sattler, Stephen Wegulo **Absent:** Anne Streich, Archie Clutter, Keenan Amundsen

Approval of Minutes of April 11, 2018 Meeting

Cahoon motioned for the approval of the minutes. Meinke moved to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2018 meeting; Wegulo seconded. The minutes were approved with no objections.

Updates – Amy Hilske

Amy discussed updates regarding the growth chambers. Amy plans to get 4 growth chambers ordered (2 for East Campus and 2 for Beadle Center).

The company that replaces the shade cloths every year has pulled off the project due to safety reasons. Amy has been working with Barry Shull and they plan to meet with DHM on site (East Campus) on May 16th to see if they can remedy some of their concerns about the safety issues. The biggest safety issue is that they (company) are walking on the peaks of the greenhouses and not being harnessed in. The company said that it is over the threshold and there are no tie-downs for them to be able to connect their harnesses.

Amy noted that it costs about \$14,000 every year to put up/take down the shade cloths.

Hilske also mentioned that Jeff Witkowski (East Campus Greenhouse Manager) is working with the EPA on whether or not zoom training would be acceptable for those not able to attend the training in person.

Action Item: Amy Hilske will provide an update of the conversation with Barry Shull and the company at the next meeting.

Greenhouse Policy & Guidelines Review – Amy Hilske

Amy Hilske feels that section one needed to be updated to include the verbiage “each new project”. Discussion ensued amongst the group regarding changes to the language about requesting plant growth space for research.

The group agreed that small, simple projects may be approved and able to be initiated in a shorter timeframe (will need to add certain qualifiers) and a two week lead time is requested. Some qualifiers could include > 6 trays or > 20 pots. It should also state what the goal of this policy is (to enhance communication between greenhouse users and the greenhouse managers).

Action Item: Amy Hilske will share the updated verbiage with the group at the next meeting so that the committee can vote to approve it or make changes if needed.

White Paper Update – Ed Cahoon

The group discussed the white paper and details for each section. The goal of section two is to show the importance and impact of our plant growth facilities. Cahoon asked if the facilities also support extension activities.

Section Three - it was proposed that a flow chart of managers would be helpful to better visualize the organizational structure.

Section Four - include a summary of the report on state of greenhouse infrastructure and include the full report as an appendix.

Section Five - this section will be based on the surveys and interview conducted on greenhouse users and faculty.

Section Six - this section will list recommendation. Christensen expressed concerns around parking and ecological research.

Action Item: Wegulo will provide Cahoon with the language to use in the white paper regarding the impact of Plant Growth Facilities to Nebraska Extension.

Action Item: Streich will provide Cahoon with language to use in the white paper regarding the impacts of teaching.

Action Item: Schnable will work with Cahoon on creating pie charts/visuals for the data and numbers provided in section three.

Next Meeting – June 14th; 2:00 – 3:00pm; 103J Ag Hall

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned 10:35 a.m.