

SAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 26, 2007, 10:00 a.m., HR Services Conference Room, 207 Old Main

Present: Billie Brooks, Brian Carrico, Emily Okes, Dale Osburn, Jim Stephens, Steve Hensley, Chuck Somerville, Jim Terry, Andrea Koutsunis

Minutes of Prior Meeting: Request approval of minutes from the July 9, 2007 meeting.

New Member: Chuck Somerville, College of Science, has now joined the Safety Committee, representing faculty in place of Ashok Vaseashta who is away on assignment.

Status of Reimbursement for Damaged Clothing: Emily Okes stated that she had been in contact with Steve Hensley and the female student regarding the damaged clothing item. Steve Hensley said he would reimburse the cost of the jacket for the student. Emily Okes gave the contact information. Jim Stephens stated that marking construction sites with physical objects in addition to notices on the walls could help to alleviate these types of situations. Dale Osburn spoke with John Bailey, Manager of the Paint Shop, and said they would raise the issue in the next Physical Plant schedule meeting. One suggestion was to install detectable, physical barriers around construction sites.

Science Building Cold Temperatures: Brian Carrico stated that repairs had been made to the cooling system and that the chillers had been fixed. Dale Osburn stated that three new compressors had been brought in by the Physical Plant Department and that everything was in good working order.

Chemical Storage in College of Science: Brian Carrico stated that it is an ongoing situation with the College of Science (COS) and the Medical Education Building (MEB). Improvements were being made within the departments. Karl Shanholtzer is the faculty contact in COS. The main goal of this project is to have better organization and records of all chemical storage information.

Driver Training: Brian Carrico stated that the Safety Department is working on developing a driver training program in conjunction with Computing Services. This program is in the development stages and Computing Services is also helping to contribute their skills and ideas. Pictures of actual Marshall vehicles and public safety vehicles will be used to aid in the use of this program. The driver training should be up and running by the end of the fall 2007 semester. Brian Carrico is the contact on this issue.

Uneven Sidewalks: Dale Osburn stated that the uneven sidewalks in selected areas of campus are hazardous in a wheelchair. The specific areas of campus that were discussed were the west side of Gullickson Hall and Corbly Hall. These areas had been marked and a quote from Cement Finishing, Inc. was obtained. Included in the project will be Mike Meadows from Facilities Planning and Management. As of this time the Physical Plant did not have an available budget for this project. Dale recommended to the Safety Committee that both projects should be a top priority for the Safety Committee.

Carpeting at Drinko Service Entrance: Dale Osburn stated that there was an old runner being used in this area of the service entrance. Brian Carrico and Dale Osburn had the torn rug removed and will replace with a safer rug.

New Parking Lots on Campus: After the addition of new parking lots on campus, an issue was raised regarding the lack of sidewalks surrounding the new parking lots in the area of F Lot. Jim Terry stated that there has never been a sidewalk in that area, and that students, faculty and staff can walk across the parking lot to reach their destination. He also discussed the issue that due to the amount of construction in that area over the next ten years, it is not a feasible idea and that money has not been allocated to support installation of a new sidewalk.

Biotechnology Center Sidewalks: Dale Osburn raised the issue regarding the 18th Street curb cut located on the southeast corner of the Biotechnology Science Center, opposite the parking garage. Currently there is not a walkway in that area. Jim Terry stated that he had asked the City of Huntington to place “Do Not Park” signs in that area. Jim will update the committee during the next meeting.

Campus Crosswalks: Chuck Somerville raised the issue of students crossing 5th Avenue and 3rd Avenue in areas other than those marked with a crosswalk. Jim Terry stated the need for remarking the areas needed for crosswalks. Another proposed suggestion is to landscape the grounds of campus to funnel pedestrian traffic into the proper crosswalks for crossing the street.

Harris Hall Elevator: Dale Osburn stated that the elevator in Harris Hall does not meet ADA codes and that it should be the recommendation of the committee to make that a high priority for repairs and renovation

Fire Safety: Billie Brooks raised the issue regarding the MCTC and fire safety. The suggestion was made to provide fire safety manuals in each building on campus to assist in handicap rescue and evacuation plans, should the need arise. Brian Carrico stated that his department had sent out memos to all faculty and staff for evacuation plans across campus. Brian also provided information regarding Corbly Hall, Smith Hall and Harris Hall being smoke free stairwells. The recommendation was made for the Safety Committee to attend any training regarding this issue.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Safety Committee is scheduled for Friday, November 16, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., and will include a safety walk-through of Smith Hall.