MINUTES

**University Safety and Health Committee**

February 4, 2009, 12:00 pm

Clocktower Room, Student Center

Attendees: Brenda Albert, Jean Alicandro Clifford Anderson, Laurie Colburn, David Honyotski, Rene Karas-Johnson, Sally Lesik, Jason Powell Ray Primini (DAS), Coleen Sturken

Absent: Richard Bachoo, Laurie Dunn, Dominic Forcella, Neil Glagovich, Karen Perezi, Joseph Starczyk

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Karas-Johnson called the meeting to order at 12 noon. C. Anderson moved, seconded by S. Lesik, to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2008, meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business**

Awareness Campaign on University’s Smoking Policy

The Committee again discussed sponsoring an awareness campaign to get the message out concerning the University’s Smoking Policy to students, faculty and staff. It was thought that the best time to hold this campaign would be at the beginning of the fall semester. Details of this campaign will be discussed at the next meeting in May since N. Glagovich and L. Dunn could not attend this meeting.

**New Business**

Review of Emails Received

Chairperson Karas-Johnson reviewed the emails that had been sent to the Safety and Health Committee mailbox. The subject of these emails fell into the following categories:

* Safety concern regarding a former student and a faculty member in the Management Department.
	+ Chief Powell discussed the situation in which a faculty member obtained a restraining order against a student. Chief Powell will be meeting with faculty to follow up on this situation.
	+ Discussion included various behavior types and signals that might identify troubled students. Additionally, Chief Powell discussed the Safe School Initiative and a speaker that had been on campus to address this issue. This survey can be found at http://www.ustreas.gov/usss/ntac\_ssi.shtml
* Walkways untreated between the Student Center and Library following the January 7th storm.
	+ R. Bachoo responded to the issue for facilities to address.
* Several miscellaneous, maintenance-related concerns including: covering of air conditioners, mold/mildew, icicles at building entrances, elevators and cleaning issues.
	+ These issues were addressed by Facilities Management and the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.
	+ D. Honyotski stressed that if someone sees a problem, they should call it in – the Police Department and Energy Center are staffed 24/7 and can dispatch the problem.
	+ Additional discussion included the need for feedback to the original requester.
* A professor’s concern regarding students’ nutrition/food intake.
	+ Committee concluded that this type of item is not something this committee could address but offered numerous information sources (Counseling & Wellness, RecCentral, Sodexo nutritionist, Food Committee, Health Services, etc.).

National Safety Council website ([www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org)**)**

R. Karas-Johnson talked about the website as a resource. Copies of the Safety Observance Calendar were distributed. The committee discussed some events on which to focus. As a campus, we are already participating in numerous events including: Take Back the Night and monthly residence hall fire inspections.

As May Arise

* Maintenance staff member fell on January 28th near the Library due to snowy/icy conditions. Library staff member slipped on ice and caused additional injury to an existing injury.
* Trucks parking in front of Library rear entrance. Issue to be addressed by Police Department and Environmental, Health & Safety.
* Classes were cancelled as of 5 p.m. on February 3rd due to a storm. Discussion on the lateness of the cancellation call, problems with the snow phone and staggered release times. This discussion will be shared with R. Bachoo
	+ Chief Powell explained that default message is on the snow phone until Dispatch makes changes. Updates cannot be made while calls are coming in. Chief Powell will follow up with Mark McLaughlin about vendor for back up operations.
	+ The committee discussed the appropriateness of using the mass notification system for weather-related closings and delays. Chief Powell elaborated that other agencies have used the mass notification system for this purpose.
	+ A bogus cancellation was reported on Fox 61 on this day as well. As a result, many didn’t believe the real announcement when it came out.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by J. Alicandro and seconded by S. Lesik. The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Albert

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