



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

A meeting of the Imperial Valley College Environmental Health and Safety Committee was held in the Board Conference Room at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, January 12, 2009.

I. Roll Call

Present:

Rick Webster, Gonzalo Huerta, Ted Ceasar, Miriam Trejo, Sergio Lopez, Frank Rapp, and Martha Garcia.

Absent:

Travis Gregory, Andrew Chien, Hope Davis, Jim Fisher, Lincoln Davis, Richard Fitzsimmons, Daniel Gilison, Russell Lavery, Frank Miranda, Marco Morales, Thomas Morrell, James Patterson, Deidre Pollock, Jean Stroud, Jill Tucker, Jack Williams, Kathy Berry, Becky Green, Judy Santistevan, John Abarca, and Martha Jacobo.

II. Call to Order

The Environmental Health and Safety meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

III. Approval of minutes

A motion to approve the minutes dated November 17, 2008 was moved by Sergio Lopez and seconded by Rick Webster. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Old Business

a. Alert U Contract

The Alert U contract has been forwarded to the IVC President for signature.

b. New Phone System

Rick Webster mentioned that the phone system upgrade has not been completed.

Shoretel training is currently being offered to IVC employees. For more information or to register, employees may contact the IT department.

A discussion was held regarding the intercom function of the new system. The Intercom function allows individuals to connect with another party without ringing the party through a call line.

Discretion is suggested when using this feature because other parties would be able listen to surrounding sounds or conversations. Intercom should be used during emergencies only.

c. Smoking Policy

Resolution No. 14266 states that Imperial Valley College (IVC) will transition towards becoming a tobacco-free district beginning February 17, 2009; IVC parking lots (with the exception of parking lot A and the Preschool lot) have been designated as smoking areas.

Miriam Trejo from Parking Control mentioned that California state law prohibits smoking near an office or within 25 feet of any window or major entrance.

As per Sergio Lopez, Associate Dean of Student Services, Tobacco-Free Campus signs would be displayed at IVC main entrance. Instructors will inform students of the new policy. The Student Services office has ordered large banners. The policy will be announced on the students' electronic message board.

Copies of the following articles were provided and reviewed:

- *Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights: Rights for Non Smokers.* (2003). Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights.
- *There Is No Constitutional Right to Smoke.* (2005). Public Health Insitutute.
- *There is no Constitutional Right to Smoke* (2005). Samantha K. Graff

d. Construction Update

The following issues were discussed:

- a) Expected completion date is October 2009.
- b) Construction was slightly delayed due to the rupture of five major valves.
- c) IVC received a grant to complete the bus drop off area. Construction will begin sometime in April.
- d) IVC Transit uses IVC bus stops as a transfer point. These areas will remain illuminated (for riders' safety) during the spring break.
- e) The committee discussed some pedestrian safety issues. Students and employees are entering through the construction zone.

e. Other issues

A discussion was held regarding the schedule of security guards. It was mentioned that security guards are always patrolling the outside perimeters (parking lots). In the evenings, security is very limited in the bus stop areas and classrooms (inside areas).

Action item: Invite John Lau, Vice-President for Business Services to discuss campus security (i.e., parking control, evening security, security inside campus vs. parking lots, etc.)

V. New Business

a. Sure Helpline Crisis Center

The Sure Helpline Rape Crisis Center training schedule was distributed.

b. Sexual Harassment Training

In the upcoming weeks, online sexual harassment training will be available for adjunct instructors and non-supervisory staff.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.