

# The Evergreen State College

## Health and Safety Committee: Minutes, June 2nd, 2021

1. **Welcome to visitors**—Sina
  - a. None.
2. **Welcome to new members** – Sina
  - a. Daniel Mountain (not in attendance)
3. **Approval of May’s meeting minutes**—Sina
  - a. Ricky Lee moved to accept the draft minutes as written, Jason seconded the motion, Sina abstained, all others were in favor, and no one was against. The motion to accept was carried.
4. **Accident investigation reports: Review 301 Reports**—Taylor
  - a. Use of a power sander caused the item to kick back and hit the person in the face. Putting together machine specific training to address this going forward.
  - b. A muscle strain resulted from lifting so some ergonomic training will be given as a result.
5. **Test Process Monitoring (asbestos/air quality/water quality/etc.)**—Taylor, Ricky
  - a. On site visit to assess the silica complaint at the Shops grounds will happen on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - b. Lead found in the hand rails by the CAB (descending stairway from Red Square at the north side of the building) using an off-the-shelf Lead test kit. This is the new practice whenever old paint is to be removed. Further assessment from a 3<sup>rd</sup> party is planned for later in the week. The 3<sup>rd</sup> party would also handle any abatement. Sina suggested we track this as we test each area. Taylor agreed that should be put into place.
  - c. Beth Stated that the committee should be a go-to resource for anyone on campus with any safety or health concern, Taylor stated that she hoped to be contacted or kept in the loop with any such concerns. Sina echoed that purpose of the HSC.
6. **Sub-committee progress reviews, if any**
  - a. Sub-comm re 301 Report tracking database/app – Peter and Taylor discussing—Taylor
    - i. No progress to report
    - ii. Should this be expanded to include other items that need tracking – Sina/Ricky
      1. Need a centralized place for this information that could be searched. Other information related to Environmental Health and Safety could be tracked as well. Erin thought that Blood Borne Pathogens might be tracked already in Banner. Beth said that this was looked at a couple of years ago but we lacked the staffing resources to put this in place. Taylor is concerned about HIPA regulation of private information. Ricky Lee and Taylor do track such issues using paper or other files and will think about what might make the process more centralized and streamlined. Erin offered to do some research as well.

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- b. Sub-comm re Moving EHS Operations Reporting Line, Feasibility Study:—Shon, Kyle, Sina
  - i. Sina shared that there seem to be no policies in place. Need to check back in with this committee because the direction has changed a bit since it was begun and to see if others were interested in working on this. Kyle suggested that we might need a separate committee to develop these policies because of the scope. A goal is to define everyone’s responsibility in Health and Safety. An example was that Taylor works for Facilities and does not have any say in safety issues that may occur at RAD. Further work is needed and all are invited to get involved with a goal of unifying the safety reporting and responsibilities across all campus groups.
- c. Sub-comm re which WISHA statutes apply to each workgroup—Eric
  - i. After talking with Sina and Taylor, I will be starting with PPE based “dress code” for Grounds, Shops and Motor Pool. Will address each work groups needs as far as safety, identification as a TESC staff member etc. Taylor has said she can supply information as to L and I requirements and suggestions, guideline for each particular job. Example being what particular type of boot is required for what particular job etc. At some point this will potentially be part of a New Hire packet which will include a safety based dress code and safety training check list. There are many parts to this, one of which being inclusion of union in the process. At some point it would seem beneficial to have each work group design their own program based on their safety needs. Sina offered that any group interested in establishing PPE requirements for their work areas get involved in this process. Taylor will be working on a new hire safety orientation as well to enhance the current OJT approach.
- d. Sub-comm re Campus Smoking Policy: Smoking Shelter by Shops? - Em, Paul. Eric, Teresa
  - i. Nothing new to report. The committee needs to redefine its goals.

### **7. COVID-19 Updates and Reports by Area –**

- a. Updates from members on current practices, news, issues
  - i. Beth mentioned that Campus COVID vaccination policy for Fall is in process and will be reviewed by the Union once released. Erin is working on the policy.
  - ii. Erin reminded us that even though the State requirement for mask wearing has changed for those who have been vaccinated it had not changed on campus yet. L&I has a requirement that we have a system in place to verify and document vaccination status
- b. Updates from Erin/Scott on new campus protocols or announcements
  - i. In process

### **8. Program Updates – Taylor**

- a. Lead and Silica abatement is happening. Working on hazard communication tracking as it pertains to SDS listings and Chemical Inventory. Looking for an existing tracking system that we might

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subscribe to. Working with Erin on a campus evacuation plan, will be reaching out to different segments of campus for input on this. Upcoming scaffold training. May through September is heat exposure season. Fire extinguishers should be visually inspected monthly (per L&I) but we currently do not have the person power to do that. The next step is that employees are not encouraged to use our fire extinguishers and to just exit and not try to fight the fire unless trained. Contact Taylor for training if desired. If anyone has any ideas on how to comply with the monthly inspection requirement please let Taylor know. Our Storm water program is deficient and we are working to resolve that. Elevator safety protocols need to be reviewed. We had a near miss with a Facilities staff member and an elevator tech in the same elevator shaft at the same time but were not aware of each other's presence. Working to resolve this with the supplier (Kone) to use signage more effectively to restrict access while work is under way. Hearing tests (on site) have been completed for 2021. Let Taylor or Ricky Lee know if you want to get tested but missed this opportunity and they can refer you to a local vendor. Beth offered that they wrote a program to track over 2,000 fire extinguishers at a Tacoma General hospital. That program was no longer needed when they hired an outside agency to take over that function. At Evergreen we have Convergent who monitors ours annually. Paul asked if there was a written procedure for inspection that the sciences staff might follow to inspect the ones in the Labs buildings. Taylor offered to share that and to check to see if the Convergent contract covers the L&I requirement for regular inspection.

### **9. Discussion of Terracon Recommendations – Ricky**

- a. This has been ongoing since before COVID hit. Beth asked that the information be recirculated to allow new members on the committee to get up to speed on it. Kyle asked if we could publish this on our committee web site. Sina will look into this.
- b. From the Executive summary:
  - i. The assessment identified limited evidence of an effectively implemented, supervisor and enforced IIPP, primarily within Elements I & II, Hazard Anticipation & Detection and Hazard Prevention and Control. None were assessed as “3” or “completely in place”. There is limited evidence of a program that, in practice, consistently identifies and controls health and safety risks, reduces the potential for incidents, helps achieve compliance with health and safety legislation or continually improves Evergreen's H&S performance.

### **10. Visitor agenda items — Sina**

- a. No visitors

### **11. New Business –**

- a. Erin asked what we might like to do to deal with wildfire season. Last year was bad for smoke in the air. Erin is asking where the scope of this committee might intersect with this issue. Erin suggests an informational campaign to let folks know how to be safe. Being prepared would be useful. Beth suggests we put out a reminder notification as Erin did last year. Send Erin any suggestions.

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### 12. Call for Agenda Items for next meeting –

- a. Sina asked if we want to meet this summer. Paul suggested we decide at the July meeting.

**In Attendance:** Sina Hill (Chair), Ricky Lee Haney (Co-Chair), Paul Paroff (notes), Jason Mock, Beth Mason, Kyle Flynn, Eric Lakewold, Taylor Slaughter, Erin Brewster

Excused: Teresa Bravenec, Shon Forsyth

On Leave: Peter Robinson, Officer Dawn Leopardo

Absent: Em Jones, Daniel Mountain