

# The Evergreen State College

## Health and Safety Committee Minutes: March 1st, 2023

1. **Welcome to visitors** – Sina,
  - a. Jason introduced coworker Ren who will be representing Jason at future meetings as needed.
2. **Motion to approve previous month's meeting minutes**—Sina
  - a. Jan and Feb - Need quorum (5)
    - i. Jason called for a motion to accept the January and February draft meeting minutes as written, Eric seconded the motion. All present were in favor of the motion, none were opposed, and the minutes were adopted as written.
3. **Accident investigation reports: Review 301 Reports**—Taylor
  - a. New reports
    - i. From Police Services with a slip and trip but it was off campus. Recommendation is to talk about good practices for walking when it is slippery.
    - ii. Individual (not faculty, staff, or student) injured on a rope swing out in the forest. No other details yet. Discussion followed about taking any of these down that are encountered by grounds crew for safety going forward.
4. **Monitoring Updates (asbestos/air quality/water quality/etc.)**—Taylor
  - a. A second round of asbestos monitoring is under way.
5. **Sub-committee progress reviews, if any**
  - a. Sub-comm re Safety Policy - Sina, Taylor
    - i. Waiting for official feedback from management. Sina will follow up.
  - b. Sub-comm re Campus Smoking Policy: Smoking Shelter by Shops? - Paul, Eric, Teresa
    - i. New shelter nearing completion.
  - c. Sub-comm re Clean Woods – Eric
    - i. Some bins were found by the beach trail head and were removed.
  - d. Sub-comm re Dog Waste (*move discussion to end of meeting*) – Beth, Ray, Eric
6. **COVID-19/Flu/Other Respiratory Virus Updates and Reports by Area** –
  - a. Updates from members on current practices, news, issues
    - i. None
7. **Safety Program Updates** – Taylor
  - a. Two more folks joining the Asbestos Safety Team next week. Reporting will be routed through the Facilities Work Order System instead of email.

# The Evergreen State College

## Health and Safety Committee Minutes: March 1st, 2023

### 8. Safety Concerns by Area and Training Needs – Sina

- a. Jason was thankful that the lighting in the Library stairs was repaired.
- b. Beth concerned that the PMs of construction crews and vendors know our safety protocols. Taylor meets with construction PMs to make sure they have safety plans in place and that they agree with TESC requirements and protocols. Beth will contact Taylor about ongoing projects.
- c. Sina pointed out that there is a place on the EHS web page that you can report any hazard you observe and that you can add photos from your phone or other information.

### 9. Land Stewardship Discussion – Scott, Alix

- a. Alix from the Office of Sustainability, introduced and described their work in compiling the report on “Stewardship of Evergreen’s Undeveloped Campus Lands Priority Recommendations for Procedures & People”. (This report was distributed to committee members on 2/16/23 for review at this meeting). The study focuses on the undeveloped spaces on Evergreen’s 1,000 acres. The intention of the report is to improve communication internally and externally and to act as a guideline for the consistent management of those spaces.
- b. There was much discussion concerning who has access to our spaces and who gets notified of or approves of events and who is responsible for any management, cleanup, and maintenance. How are any volunteers doing any maintenance or improvements managed or supervised? The example of South Puget Sound Disc Golf group which uses our course on weekends and has done maintenance in the course area was discussed.
- c. Scott added that the intention of this plan was to systematize a process for stewardship of the property and to capture and record historical agreements and any new plans going forward. We have traditionally relied on volunteers to maintain the undeveloped areas but with a small core of organizers we can manage the volunteer efforts more effectively. Safety would be a consideration. Some discussion of cooperation with Native Pathways was discussed but that coordination isn’t a core part of the proposal. The SLUG generally decides on land use issues but does not have a comprehensive history of decisions and agreements as it was formed from the combination of two other committees some time ago and some of the agreements were in the hands of folks who may no longer be here. The boundaries between what Facilities already takes care of and the parts of the property that are under Academic control like the Organic Farm, and parts of the property that are not actively maintained need to be delineated. Scott plans to bring this report to the SLUG and see how it would relate to approving projects. Scott also asked what role the Health and Safety Committee might play in the plans and processes for managing the land.
- d. Beth suggested that if the Geoduck House were to be taken down that it might be replaced with a covered teaching area that could be rented out for community use such as the Fly Fishing Association that they are members of. Such an organization could form a relationship with the college where they help maintain areas but they would also be granted access for some activities. So there would be some benefit to them and the college.

# The Evergreen State College

## Health and Safety Committee Minutes: March 1st, 2023

- e. Zach and Eric suggested a dedicated trail crew for maintenance of the grounds. The issue of the trees shading the south part of the Organic Farm was discussed. The trees shade the farm, effectively decreasing the area available to grow crops each year.
- f. Sina asked that we provide feedback on the document to Scott and Alix if we have not done so already.

### **10. Dog Waste – Scott, Eric**

- a. Scott is applying for a water quality grant to start to clean up Snyder Cove Creek and Barking Dog Creek with a long term goal of restoring these as Salmon habitat. Cary LeRoy has been studying the water quality in these areas for years. Some excrement based contamination has been detected so the source of that contamination needs to be remediated. Part of the funding could go to covering the cost of Dog Poop Bag dispensers and signage along the trails around the creeks.

### **11. Visitor agenda items -**

- a. None

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

- a. Email Sina with any suggestions for the next meeting

In Attendance: Zac Young, Jackie LaVerne, Beth Mason, Taylor Slaughter, Eric Lakewold, Jason Mock, Sina Hill, Devo Crawford-Heim, Alix Vasseur-Landriault (with Scott Morgan to talk about land stewardship), Ren Thomas (guest of Jason Mock and their backup), Ray Finn, William Ward, Scott Morgan, Emma Wright (a graduate Sustainability Fellow working with Scott and Alix).

Note: Minutes written by Paul Paroff who was absent from the meeting but used a recording to transcribe the minutes.