

# **The Evergreen State College**

## **Health and Safety Committee Minutes: January 5th, 2024**

Meeting time changed from 10 to 9AM start time for this meeting.

Accident reports: No new reports.

Monitoring updates: Continue to monitor for asbestos, lead, mold etc. as needed. Report of Mold in some housing units. Work being done to eliminate conditions that result in mold.

Sub Committee updates: Work continues to determine location of smoking shelters in shops/grounds as well as farm and lab area.

COVID and respiratory illness update: Sina updated committee on current trends and issues. Currently an uptick in COVID and Influenza around country and in Wash state. Wastewater testing has shown large increase in COVID in King County and surrounding area. May be an uptick on campus as people return to campus after holiday break. Campus reporting system still in place. Levels of illness reported no place near the levels reported in last couple years at this point. People encouraged to test, report and stay away from campus if sick.

Safety program updates: N/A

Safety concerns, needs, training, suggestions: Several topics discussed. Noted that it is difficult to use the online training program for various reasons. Lack of computers at Custodial and Grounds makes it hard to do online safety training – limited access. Making required training specific to work group, eliminate unneeded training notifications. Effectiveness of hands-on training as opposed to online training. Concern over Carbon Monoxide testing, monitoring and alarms, as well as getting useful info to students which outlines signs of exposure, general precautions etc. Training staff and campus members on response and reporting dangerous situations etc. Training by staff persons who are deemed competent persons in areas such as Forklift, lifts, equipment etc. Developing in house trainers going forward. Active shooter training to be addressed in January by leadership committee – training to come.

Sina asked if at this time group had any subjects of concern, open discussion: Question to police chief as to level of concern and prep for potential upcoming demonstrations on campus – at this time no major concern as quiet online etc. Growing concern about Graffiti on campus and in particular anti police messages – police aware. Police chief provided information and details in relation to student and police officer involved in recent events in MODS.

Discussion about known HAZO materials being left around campus on loading docks for example. Police chief emphasized the need to know all materials brought to campus and how they are handled, stored etc. Illegal dumping of non HAZO materiel on campus on regular basis reported.

New E Waste collection and disposal service – system to be developed for users on campus.

Discussion, follow up from last month concerning emergency response training for all campus users – ensure that all building users are accounted for in the event of evacuation priority.

Discussion about having designated building managers and the responsibilities and training needed and expected.

GSU rep joined meeting and a short review of prior discussion concerning carbon monoxide testing, awareness etc. as well as concerns from GSU going forward.

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Discussion around the lack of campus wide communication and info about the incidents and events in MODS recently. Note meeting taking place directly after this meeting addressing just that for all campus members. Reason for meeting time change.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10