

Health Sciences Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
October 26, 2006

Present:

Kim Bryner Bob Lemley
Doug Crowell Kevin Simpkins
Cindy Dalton Stephanie Graham-Sims
Brad Fansler Bob Smith
Marilyn Howton Trudy Werry
Tom Hussion

Absent:

Ben Cantoni Lt. Allen Hill
Mike Cain Ben Johnson
Nina Clovis Jeff Kerns
Andy Cockburn Buck Pennington
Dianne DeAngelis Debbie Pikel
Nasser Razmianfar

Agenda:

1. Cancer Center Construction.
2. Parking Area Lights, Signs.
3. 4 Way Stop Signs Misaligned at the entrance of Lot 84.
4. Update on Laboratory Audits.
5. Accident Outside of John Jones Conference Area
6. Improvement to the path up the hill from lot 81.
7. Eyewashes and Showers Checked and tagged.
8. Hallway Obstructions.
9. Stericycle Training.
10. Annual Report/Sub-Committee.

The meeting opened at 1 PM.

Mr. Smith: I just wanted to bring everyone up-to-date on the Cancer Center Construction. At last months meeting I had indicated, they were going to dig down 36ft.out in front of Family Practice to change the sewer line. Now it seems they have checked the sewer line on the inside and have decided to put a liner in the sewer pipe. It will eliminate the 36ft. dig out front. It was going to be to disruptive to patient care in the clinics and be expensive to do the other. Also, the last time we met there were questions concerning the lights issue in the new parking lot. The lighting contract has been let and the contracted has begun the work. Hopefully these lights will be in before the weather gets real bad. The misaligned intersection at the entrance of lot 84 was assessed by Jeff, Stephanie and land Stephanie contacted the physical plant and recommended changes. Lt. Hill also agreed with the recommended. The intersection has been changed to become a 4-way stop and the stop sign coming down the hill from the HSC has been moved back up the hill so that people coming down the hill will not be stopping in the middle of the intersection.

Ms. Howton: We have pretty much finished most of the second round Lab Audits. Almost all of the labs we have audited have been very co-operative. We have sent out letters to the Department Chairs concerning the problems we have found during the audits. These compliant issues have either been corrected or are being worked on at this time. Work orders have been put in to get some of the facilities problems corrected. We have started on our third time around and the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology was next on our schedule. Kim

(Bryner) and I found one lab in this department that has to be one of the worst in the facility and have pointed out some things to the researcher. As we do the audits and get the Chemical Inventories, we are changing the 704 posters on the doors and bringing them up-to-date.

Ms. Graham-Sims: We had a faculty to slip on water that had been spilled on the floor out side of the John Jones Conference Area. If anybody sees anything spilled on the floor they should either cleaned it up or report it so that at least these kinds of accidents would not happen. This faculty saw the water on the floor when he left the room, but forgot that it was there when he returned and just slid an apparently did some real damage to himself. I just want to bring you up-to-date on the path up the hill from lot 81. The path we call the "Goat Path". I have been working with the Physical Plant Downtown to improve this into a walkway. They have sent back the plan after looking it over. What they want to do is to cut down on the steepness and try to concrete it or blacktop it. Probably they will have to put in some steps and landings to level it.

Mr. Fansler: They will also have to put in handrails, wouldn't they? In the past we have had several people slip on that path and we do have liability there.

Ms. Graham-Sims: Yes! I think so, it will still get slick in winter weather. I will keep everyone posted on what happens.

Mr. Smith: Tom do you have anything?

Mr. Hussion: Yes! We have been checking every eyewash station and showers. I think we are about close to 99% in checking at this point in time. If you know of any we have missed please let me know and we will check them. One problem we have run into when we have tried to test the eye flushes is, some times we can't pull the flush up to check it because the lab has stored so much stuff under the sink that it interferes with the hose. As far as the showers go I think there are about 26 heads we need to change out yet. We have been changing out the showers with the chains, the ones with the orange heads because the valves stick on them and can't be turned off. There are labs on the 2nd floor of HCSN Building that would rather have the eye flushes instead of the ones on the sinks because the ones that are on the faucets interfere with putting containers into the sinks.

Ms. Howton: When we find a lab with hazardous material stored under sinks we write them up. There shouldn't be all this kind of "stuff" under there.

Mr. Smith: There seems to be places where radiation waste is stored under the sinks. Bob Lemley and I have discussed this with Radiation Safety. They have and are resolving these situations.

Mr. Hussion: Such as the sink with the lock on it and we couldn't get in and turn the water off to it on the second floor.

Ms. Howton: When we fin~ labs that are doing this when we do the lab audits we notify Radiation Safety.

Mr. Crowell: In the animal quarters we have had some maintenance issues with showers and eyewashes.

Mr. Smith: Are these new?

Mr. Crowell: No! These are ones that have been checked and set for 85 degrees. And also we have never gotten the new one installed that would bring us into compliance. I have been working with Paul Walden and he has the list of the ones that are needed. He has a whole list of the things that is needed to be done. The renovation in the Dental Clinic created some problems in our ceilings I think we have the most of that straightened out. If we can just get the new showers and eyewashes installed in the animal quarters it would help a lot.

Mr. Hussion: I haven't seen a work order to install the showers and eyewashes in your area. Has

a work order been put into maintenance?

Mr. Crowell: Paul Walden should have all of that.

Ms. Howton: We have been telling everyone they should check their eyewashes every week.

Mr. Hussion: We have some problem with mounting the check tags. There is just one place that needs checked daily.

Ms. Bryner: Do we have to check with you directly to find out what has been checked?

Mr. Hussion: We are working from a current list. As we check them we mark them off on the list I can supply the list after we have finished.

Ms. Bryner: So you are writing them down as you check them?

Mr. Hussion: Yes from the pre-existing list. There is a shower up on the 8th floor of HSS that you probably don't know about. I believe it may be in Exercise Physiology.

Mrs. Howton: We probably need to put it on our list.

Mr. Smith: Kevin, What about that "stuff" in the hallways at the Cancer Center, has it been removed yet? Sandy had indicated that she was going to write up a work order to get the furniture removed to surplus.

Mr. Simpkins: About a half of the "stuff" has been removed, I don't know about the work order.

Mr. Fansler: We have a problem with the ventilation down in Dentistry. I don't know what has cause the ventilation to blow constant hot air. We have a lot of unhappy people down there. We have moved some of the people to the old Maxafacial Area. We have some fans running. I have call several times concerning this problem, I don't know if this is caused by the renovations or what; but it seems maintenance can't fix the problem. Maybe we will have to get more fans.

Ms. Howton: We are finding that maintenance has a problem fixing some of the fume hoods too. Especially some hoods in the School of Pharmacy.

Mr. Lemley: Brad, have you put in a work order to get the ventilation fixed?

Mr. Fansler: Yes!

Mr. Lemley: Buck (Pennington) has inherited a lot of these problems. He and his crew are trying to fix things that should have been fixed years ago.

Mr. Fansler: I'm sure there are a lot of issues maintenance is dealing with.

Mr. Lemley: There is Stericycle Training coming up soon, Doug, do you have anything on that yet? Please let Stephanie and I know about this so we can keep Kevin inform, he wants to take this training. Are things going all right with the solid waste from the animal quarters?

Mr. Crowell: Yes! Everything is going O.K.

Ms. Graham-Sims: I just want everyone know we are doing away with the vans. We have gotten a mini bus because of an injury.

Mr. Lemley: The Learning Center is to be opened by next semester.

Mr. Smith: I have been looking at the statistical data of the incidents for this year and have found that one of the categories such as "Overexertion" has decreased. This incident usually happens from the custodians from lifting heavy items into the carts. This year there has been a down turn in this type of incidents.

Ms. Werry: Talk about "overexertion", are these people trained on how to lift? If not may we could get Physical Therapy to do some training on lifting, such as orientation. They have done this at other facilities such as the hospital and they do a good job. It also gives their students a chance to train as well.

Mr. Smith: I'm not sure if lifting training is included in the annual sessions. Stephanie can you and Bob (Lemley) check to see if this is included.

Ms. Werry: If you want to use these people to do training in that area, I can supply you with a

contact.

Mr. Smith: I received an outline from EH&S on this year's HSC Safety Committee Report. There are things on it that are different than what has been required before. I am in the process of making this committee's annual report. This outline states it will be used to judge the committees for awards. The annual reports from this committee over the years have not only been to show EH&S that we are an active safety committee; but the reports have been to inform the HSC Administration of the problems and issues of safety here at the HSC. I have decided to continue writing the normal report and have a sub-committee look at this questionnaire and see if these questions pertain to our situation, I am asking Stephanie, Bob (Lemley) and Jeff to review this outline, as a sub-committee of this committee One of the questions deals with the Shirmer Report to which I have not seen the complete report. Jeff isn't here today but he has been volunteered because of his expertise.

Mr. Lemley: We will review it and get back to you with the answers.

Meeting Adjourned at 2: 20 PM.