

Health Sciences Safety Committee Meeting

Minutes

May 24, 2007

Present:

Kim Bryner
Cindy Dalton
Lt. Allen Hill
Bob Lemley
Bob Smith
Trudy Werry

Absent:

Mike Cain
Ben Cantoni
Nina Clovis
Andy Cockburn
Dianne DeAngelis
Brad Fansler
Lisa Hatfield

Thomas Hussion
Jeff Kerns
Ben Johnson
Grove Pennington
Debbie Pikel
Kevin Simpkins
Stephanie Graham-Sims
Nasser Razmainfar

Agenda:

1. Loading Dock Steps.
2. Facility Doors.
3. Training for Housekeeping Staff.
4. Isolation Rooms.....Dentistry and Family Practice.
5. Portable Isolation Unit.
6. Communicable Disease Concern.
7. Parking Lot Issues.
8. Safety Fair Results.

The meeting opened at 1 PM.

Mr. Smith: Indicated this would be the last meeting for the summer months and hope to see everyone in September. Everyone should have a safe wonderful summer. It seems as though this Safety Committee has been made up of a lot of different people since I became chairperson. At the time I took the chair, I told Dr. Jones and Hal Harper, I would only take the chair for one year. It has been seventeen. There has been a lot of improvement in the safety at the Health Sciences during these years and the contribution the members have made has been a large part of those improvements. One person in particular stands out and that was Rowena Damron. She was in a wheelchair and was very active on the Safety Committee. She found areas around the facility where improvements could be made so that handicap persons wouldn't have difficulty in getting in, through, and out of the building.

Bob Lemley and I have made a walk around the outside of the facility to check out areas that have safety hazards. Bob has made notes on these and they will be addressed. One of the hazards is the steps on the loading dock where one of your (Lt. Hill) officers almost fell. This has been reported to Maintenance Engineering and they are to fix the steps.

Lt. Hill: There were almost two officers, myself included. I have seen Maintenance Engineering out working on the steps this morning.

Mr. Smith: I want everyone to know the outside door problem is being assessed and a contractor will be hired to either fix these problem doors or replace them. This has been discussed at the Facilities level.

Lt. Hill: Is this going to be the same as we have been promise in the past?

Mr. Lemley: I don't think so because Dr. Butcher is aware of the situation and has given his "blessing" to get them fixed.

I want to let everyone know that Stephanie, Bob and I met with Trudy and Lana concerning training our housekeeping staff in patient areas of the Family Practice and the Dental Clinics. We also discussed the rooms that are supposed to be isolation rooms in these areas. During this meeting we toured these rooms and we discovered these rooms may have not been built as isolation rooms as they were designed for. These rooms are not presently being used as isolation areas. I have been working with Filtech to give us some idea of what's

there. We need to have isolation rooms in those areas. I have “dug up” a little more on the situation. I will write a full report. I’ll get back to the committee in the future concerning these rooms.

Ms. Weery: In the mean time, it might be possible to work out something with the hospital to borrow their portable isolation unit. The one like was used down in the MRI unit. I brought this up with the hospital in case of an emergency situation happens. Another way to deal with this on the Health Sciences side is for the purchase of a unit or maybe two units if it isn’t feasible to repair the rooms or borrow the hospital’s unit.

Mr. Lemley: No matter we will have to go through Dr. Butcher. This is something that has to be dealt with.

Lt. Hill: We have had a person drive up to our booth and identify himself as a TB patient, what are we to do, what precautions should we take? Are my officers at risk? Who should we notify so that others will not be at risk?

Ms. Weery: You should have some mask in the booth (not the N95 mask) but mask for them to put on. You should find out where the patient is going within the facility and contact the area where they will be treated to make them aware of patient present. Probably it would be good to have some disinfectant soap (hospital strength such as CALSTAT) on hand in the booth as well as the areas the patient is to visit. Those that do the housekeeping and cleaning should be made aware of the situation. TB is short lived and is an airborne pathogen. It can be transmitted by the patient coughing or sneezing.

Lt Hill: Is TB the top disease we have to worry about?

Ms. Weery: Probably! Keep in mind there are other communicable diseases out there but at the moment TB is to worry about because there is a strain that is drug resistant.

Mr. Smith: We still have people driving through the parking lot very fast, especially one I observed today. He didn’t stop at the 4-way stop at the intersection and sped on down over the hill. The car didn’t have a parking sticker. He looked like a student.

Lt. Hill: We still have issues in the parking lots. Signs and paint for the crosswalks. I would like to see if we can’t get rid of two of the end spaces in that turn at the bottom of the hill. It is a blind curve, it is hard for the shuttle and a car to pass their. If someone is walking it is dangerous because these two end spaces create a tight blind spot.

Mr. Lemley: We need to talk to Stephanie and see if she can get the Physical Plant to remove them and mark a crosswalk. She has been on the university parking committee and has had very good co-operation from Byron Smith at the Physical Plant.

Ms. Bryner: I just wanted to comment about the Safety Fair held in the John Jones Conference room on Tuesday. It was a success. Many people, around two hundred attended it. Fisher Scientific sponsored it. There were a good many vendors and the food was great. I think we will have it again next year. One of the things that were of interest was the portable Heart defibrillator. Lt. Hill, do you folks have one of these? They are made for first responders.

Lt. Hill: No we don’t have one. How much do they cost? Our budget is very limited.

Ms. Bryner: Around \$2500.00. I can give you the information on them because your officers are first responders when incidents occur.

Mr. Smith: Does anyone have anything to add, if not I just want to thank everyone for coming.

Meeting Adjourned at 2: 00 PM.