ENVIROMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

DATE: March 1, 2012


NOTES:

The minutes from our previous meeting on November 16th, 2010 were approved and will be added to the website.

Bill Ferland opened the meeting by introducing Linda Richard from the IT Department to the committee. Linda came to the meeting to discuss some air quality issues in the IT area of the Flanagan Campus.

Bill talked about the petition last year that was circulated to the folks at Flanagan Campus for surveillance cameras to be installed on campus. The college is going forward with the installation of cameras on both the Flanagan and Liston campuses. At this time, Dave Snow is getting a quote for purchase and installation. The cameras will also be in the Field House and the pool area.

Walter mentioned an incident at the Flanagan campus in the Library this semester. Two College Patrol Persons had to “overpower” a student after he became very disruptive. They cuffied him and led him out, banning him from Flanagan. The student then enrolled at the Liston campus for the next term and threatened a female professor’s life. Security measures for the professor were stepped up wherever the professor taught and wherever the student took. Additionally, an armed Providence Police Officer was hired to be here before, during and after the classes the student attended. Fortunately, the student never showed back up. The question that Walter had was; if a student is banned from one campus, why isn’t he/she banned from all four campuses? And, he wondered why folks at Liston were not informed of the Flanagan incident?

Dick Robinson said that campus security is always available any time of the day to escort folks to and from the building if necessary. Dale said they are called some time to just observe outside a classroom as a presence for any faculty member or student feeling as though there may be a safety issue.

There was an incident at the Flanagan Campus in the IT Department where sprinkler work was being done and the contractor, Delta, broke through a cement wall creating cement dust to enter the air and make a mess. Linda Richard attended this meeting to bring a list of concerns to this committee not the least of which are health problems that her and fellow office mates have been experiencing. She has seen a doctor with regards to some respiratory problems she has had and will be having her lungs tested and will get back to Mary Baker with the results of those tests.

The equipment in the IT area was cleaned by the cleaners that were called in but, Linda does not believe that it was done correctly. She believes that rather than a dry cleaning of equipment, etc., a wet dusting and mopping of floors and equipment should have been done to avoid the flying of particles. Linda presented Mary with a packet of concerns and cleaning remedies as well as research that Linda did on Silica dust and its health effects.
Dave Snow agreed that the issue was regrettable and the cleanup was ramped up after Linda brought forward her concerns. Dave said the filters in the IT area have been changed twice since the incident. Testing of the dust and a check for mold will be performed during spring break even though there is a lapse in time.

The contractors should be done with the sprinkler system by the end of April.

The question was asked again as to how often the HVAC system filters were cleaned and Ken said that they are maintained to industry standards.

Kevin Salisbury mentioned to the committee that he has a concern with blood borne pathogens in the pool. Lifeguards are trained to deal with the blood borne kits but, he wondered if Physical Plant could be called in to assist. Dave Snow said yes for sure since those folks are trained to handle them as well. Dave believes that Security should be called and an incident report filled out in case of liability claims.

Kevin also offered his services as a CPR instructor. Dale is having Security attend a class that he invited this committee to attend if they are so inclined. Dave Snow would like to take that class and offer to the folks in the Physical Plant Department. There was mention of a second defibrillator being bought for the Knight Campus Security Department and possibly putting a third on the sixth floor but, there are concerns about vandalism.

Bill Ferland will put out a reminder memo or blast email at the beginning of semesters that reminds folks about the 911 process, security steps and where AED’s are positioned and who is certified to use them.

There is a concern about the metal electrical boxes that are around the Knight Campus that are a trip hazard. Ken McCabe said there are a few boxes still on campus and since they are attached to the cement floor, it will be a huge project but, is on the project list to be done.

Chris Jenkin’s asked Edna to ask the committee if there is anything that can be done about the stench from food, etc. that seems to be coming from the Student Area on the first floor at the Knight Campus. She feels that it is becoming out of control. Dave Snow agreed and would like to ban food and refrigerators from the area. The fumigation of that area has to happen every spring when the students leave.

Leslie Kennedy brought to this committee the issue of the professor diagnosed with TB at the Liston Campus. Folks are looking for the test results of those tested who attended that professor’s class. Further testing is being done. And, there was a question as to who checks immunization records of students on a regular basis. Angela Marshall, the school nurse handles all immunization records.

Dale mentioned that the fire extinguishers have had their yearly inspection and 24 of them were out of code and condemned. Those were taken down. All were replaced and are now up to code.

The subject of a person or team dedicated to Environmental and sustainability issues has previously been brought up and was brought up again. Though Mary is part of the CCRI Green Team, there is not a lot of time with just her and Jaime Nash to take on any large issues throughout the campus besides what they have already accomplished. Walter mentioned landfill visits like the one that was taken by the Green Team and some other folks. RIRRC has some floating display that can be brought to campuses as displays for Earth Day and Student events that the SEAC and the Green Team may be running in the future.
Regina Cobb mentioned the Crisis Intervention Team that she and Mary are a part of. They were trained and certified as counselors and to be first responders if there were ever a major event on campus. Regina would be glad to provide any information that the committee may want about this group.

Edna mentioned that there is an “Active Shooter” Training at the Newport Campus on March 14, 2012.

11:00 a.m. - Meeting Adjourned.