Spokane Community College Environmental Health and Safety Committee 2011-2012

Date of Meeting: November 3, 2011

Place: Lair – 1st Floor Conference Room

Time: 2:30 – 3:15PM

Committee Members Present: Jim Roth, Dennis Johnson, Jeff Rogers, Brett Farrar, Claudia Roberton-Toews, Tyler Ables, Scott Jones, Javiar Malave, Lynn Thompson, Ed Solum

Committee Members Absent: Dave Cox, Art Capello, Cindy Friedman, Cindy Usher, Charles Robbins, Linda Poage, Tyler Beasley

Jim Roth welcomed the group and introductions were done around the table.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Tyler Ables was asked for an update from last month's discussion of Building 19 access concerns raised by Ed Solum. Tyler stated that a BIR has been submitted for an additional Prox key entrance for the doorway leading from the faculty parking area. Ed asked who was going to pay for it and Tyler did not know. He was referred to Dave Cox to address this question.

In relation to the building prox key changes, Scott described some of the challenges and inconveniences they have created for the custodians. They take out the trash and then have to go around the building to get back in. Lighting is sometimes poor and there are few people around. There is also a reduced corps of custodians due to budget cuts, which means those custodians who are working are covering larger areas.

The Building Self Inspection report was reviewed. Scott once again reminded us to be on top of getting the building inspections done annually. Several are due or past due. We noted that our committee will need representatives for Buildings 28 and 7.

The CCS Accident/Illness Summary for October was reviewed. Scott noted a couple of incidents where people had accidents when they literally walked out of their shoes and fell. He noted that wearing proper foot wear is important, however it is not possible to control what people wear so prevention of these kinds of accidents is probably not possible.

Scott pointed out that next month's meeting will have a focus on blood borne pathogens. There will also be a discussion about prox key concerns. Additionally, he reminded us that committee members are supposed to be First Aid trained.

The Executive Summary Report was reviewed. Information about the "Bulb Eater" system for disposing of fluorescent lamps and about the emergency exit doors at the Lair Bookstore was reported on. The exit doors are set so that pressing panic hardware will unlock the doors and an alarm will sound.

Tyler gave a security update. There were building evacuation drills for all SCC buildings in October. Usage of the two-way radios was not consistent, so that will be an area to work on. He reported that there were a couple of burglaries, a car theft, and a laptop theft. There are a lot of found items in security, so if you are missing something check with security. There is also a general problem of burned out light bulbs and darkened areas around campus. The personal assault (rape) has not yet been solved.

In open discussion, Scott commented about a move by some students to promote a completely smoke free campus. As it currently stands, SCC has designated smoking areas. Some of the smoking areas are too small for the number of smokers. One area on the East side of Building 1 had to be moved because it was too close to the wheelchair ramp. Generally compliance has been good. But there is still a group of people who would like to see us move to smoke free. Balance of interest for both the smokers and nonsmokers is a challenge. Finally, Scott commented that flu shots at the Student Health Center are available and insurance can be billed for faculty/staff. He encouraged everyone to consider getting a flu shot.

At this point, discussion was concluded and the meeting was adjourned. We all walked carefully back to our work locations so as not to walk out of our shoes.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 1, in the Lair UPSTAIRS conference room.

Minutes prepared by Dennis Johnson