

**Safety Committee Meeting
Whitman College
April 16, 2019, 1:00 pm**

Present: Paul Dodez, John Eckel, Kendra Golden, John Hopkins (Chair), Bryan Lubbers, Kathleen Hutchison (Secretary), Fred Miller, Nicole Redman, Kathy Rogers, Shane Watkins

Absent: Celina Coffeen, Dan Schindler, Matt Stroe

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 26 meeting minutes approved. Posted on the Safety Committee webpage - <https://www.whitman.edu/environmental-health-and-safety/safety-committee>.

OLD BUSINESS

❖ Confined space update:

Dan Park & Fred Miller agreed to hire a consultant, and Peter Harvey has approved funding. Fred identified service providers, and is currently waiting on bid proposals from two prospective consultants. Task is to identify all confined spaces on campus and to map these out distinguishing permit and non-permit confined spaces. Fred has asked the consultants to propose (as a separate line item) written alternative methods of entry procedures for the non-permit required spaces.

❖ Smelly buildings update:

- Athletic Building -- two shelves have been installed in Sherwood locker rooms to hold air purifier units, and six more shelves have been ordered so the remaining units can be installed in Sherwood and BFFC locker-rooms.
- Hall of Science -- ongoing gas smells and people's response to evacuation.
 - Safety office has ramped up distribution of the new evacuation flyers around campus. The challenge is that some people think their work is more important than evacuating. Fred Miller reports ongoing training will take place for the college community.
 - John Hopkins reports there is a gas smell reported in Science 3-4 times yearly. John visited with Cascade Natural Gas who said that the college can write whatever procedure they would like for a gas leak, and when asked, said that pulling the fire alarm as you exit is a great idea to alert everyone, but did not put it in writing. John found that other universities (UW, UO, UCB, Hamilton College) say to pull the fire alarm in the case of a gas leak.
 - Fred said he visited with Fire Marshall to confirm use of fire alarm in case of a gas leak and was told to go with Cascade's recommendation. The Safety Department's policy is based on industry best practice. No separate procedures will be implemented for Science building. If an employee has a concern about getting people to comply with established safety procedures, they are welcome to contact Safety Department.

❖ Emergency Communications Systems update:

BlackBoard is getting out of the Emergency Communication Program business, so we are forced to replace that system. Fred Miller reports bids were received from two potential service providers (Everbridge, and Rave). The proposals, pricing, and functionality are similar. Rave presented their demo yesterday, and Everbridge's demo is scheduled this Friday. Decision will be made shortly after, and implementation will begin immediately with plans for migration this summer as well as testing.

NEW BUSINESS

Kathy reported that there were no new injuries or accidents since last meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 18, at 1:00pm in Technology Services room 132.