



**BSU Joint Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
Meeting #35 - January 22, 2004**

Time: 1:31 P.M.
Place: D301B

In Attendance: M. Arneson, T. Harrison, R. Marsolek, J. Sande, M. Schmitt, M. Taylor, J. Utley

Absent: L. Abrahamson, B. Butler, M. Lanners, J. Mastro, E. Steigauf and R. Womack

R. Marsolek added one item of new business, regarding a request to place sharps containers in campus restrooms, to the agenda.

Five items of old business were reviewed.

- E. Steigauf appointed Casey McCarthy to oversee completion of the department emergency plans. He will be sending out a notice to request departments to submit plans as soon as possible, if they have not already done so.
- Work on securing vending machines began on January 21. The work will resume during spring break. Prior to that, Services for the Blind will complete an inventory of vending machines on campus and discuss any concerns we may have about them.
- The tunnel between Sattgast and the Student Union has been cleared. The adjacent tunnel to Memorial has also received attention but still has a few things to be removed.
- A map showing the proposed designations for Rec. Center/ PE access points has been completed. It will be forwarded to Rec. Center and PE staff, as well as Security and local response agencies, for their review and comment.
- Suggestions for limiting vehicle traffic on sidewalks were forwarded to Vice President Amble. No response has yet been received.

There was one report of work place injury occurring since the last meeting.

An employee developed lower back pain due to over exertion from lifting wet carpet. There was some chiropractic care and three days away from work as a result of the injury. The employee has returned to work without work restrictions or complications.

Three items of new business were discussed.

- R. Marsolek advised the committee that suggestions for a working policy to keep tunnels, hallways and other public walkways clear and unobstructed, have been forwarded to Vice President Amble.
- Student Senate bill SB 04-09 was discussed. The bill was passed on 12/12/03 and calls for the placement of sharps disposal containers in men's and women's bathrooms, in each campus building. R. Marsolek questioned the benefit of installing the units for the following reasons:
 - The Student Health Service already provides a sharps collection service, free to students, including supplying individuals with sharps disposal containers that can be returned to Health Services and exchanged for new ones, when they are full.
 - Individuals who must regularly receive injected medicines are well informed on the proper disposal methods for needles and syringes and have ways to deal with the sharps.
 - Sharps disposal containers in unsecured areas can be a source of needles for illegal drug users and other illicit uses.
 - Semi-secure wall mounted outer containers cost approximately \$45/ea. The disposable inner containers cost approximately \$5/ea. Initial installation of two units in each building would cost approximately \$2500. An additional \$4500 would be required to install units on each floor of the residence halls.
 - Monitoring of the containers and transporting them to a collection site on campus would create additional duties for maintenance staff.

Committee members agreed that further review is warranted before proceeding with the project. R. Marsolek will forward his concerns to Vice President Amble.

- R. Marsolek presented a summary of general electrical safety. Points discussed included:
 - Description of "qualified" and "unqualified" workers.
 - Lockout requirements for working with energized systems.
 - Use of Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs).
 - Permitted and unpermitted use of extension cords.
 - Requirements for grounding plugs on electrical cords.
 - BSU policy on use of space heaters.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 19, 2004.

Adjourn: 2:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Marsolek
Coordinator, Environmental Health and Safety