

Minutes for WKU Safe Community Coalition Meeting

April 17, 2017 9:30am-10:30am

Potter Hall Conference Room 408

Attendees: Josh Durkee and Jonathan Oglesby, White Squirrel Weather / Meteorology guest presenters; Brandon Higgins, HR; Anita Britt, EHS; Tim Salloum, DFM; Elizabeth Madriaga, Counseling & Testing; David Oliver, EHS; Kathryn Steward, Health & Wellness; Dalla Emerson, Restaurant & Catering; Jennifer Tougas, P&T; Melna Wilson, EHS; Cynthia George, EHS; Doris Hayes, PDC; Michael Crowe, Student Conduct; Miranda Pence, Aramark.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Josh Durkee, Associate Professor with WKU Meteorology provided an overview of the newly created White Squirrel Weather Program. The recently launched weather website at WKU was championed by the Meteorology Dept and is designed to provide weather conditions that are unique to WKU's campus. The website features a view of campus captured by a nest cam; custom-designed radars for WKU and for commuters, which includes live traffic conditions. A partnership was recently created between White Squirrel Weather and WEATHER STEM. The program continues to expand which includes the installation of two more weather stations at Smith Stadium and South Campus- Intramural Fields. This will include forecasting humidity and temperature throughout the day as well as specific locations which will allow for better preparedness when considering conditions that directly impact athletes and fans. Additional benefits from this initiative will allow for a more proactive approach when ensuring good health, i.e. better planning for mold and indoor air quality issues that arise from weather conditions. In addition, it will assist with NCAA compliance as it relates to temperature and lightning cancellation protocols. It was recommended that this initiative be presented at the next SCA conference.

Updates:

- a. Anita Britt briefly discussed details regarding the upcoming Safe Communities Networking Conference- August 13-15 in Chicago, IL. Coalition members were encouraged to attend.
- b. Brandon Higgins discussed the annual Faculty, Staff, Student Safety Fair scheduled for May 3rd. There will be 25 vendors with a good mix of topic ranging from home safety to recreational safety. Booths will be interactive and include live safety demonstrations. The purpose is to raise safety awareness, learn about safety resources and interact with campus and community experts. As an incentive, employees will receive Tier II wellness points to fulfill their requirement and students will be eligible for Well-U credits.
- c. NSC e-blast was discussed and members were encouraged to sign up at <http://safety.nsc.org/scanewsletter>.
- d. Anita Britt provided an update regarding the planning stages with USIG on potential group project ideas. Attendees were advised that any challenges encountered within their

respective departments or units were encouraged to bring to the attention of either Brandon Higgins or Anita Britt for potential ideas to submit for assistance on addressing either thru programming or policy.

- e. Anita Britt announced to the group that coalition member, Rafael Casas was in the process of becoming an official SCA Reviewer.
- f. Anita Britt thanked attendees and departments for doing their part in including the SCA logo and active link on their respective webpages, email signatures and other forms of departmental communication.
- g. Tim Salloum from Facilities Management was introduced to the group as a new coalition member. Tim is the Manager, for Training and Safety.

3. Current Discussion

Pedestrian Safety Task Group – David Oliver – Discussed status of a previous grant that was submitted for that was intended to be applied to pedestrian safety. Unfortunately, the grant was not awarded but work towards improvements was still strong. Other avenues for funding and support will continue to be sought out. Speed detection signage remains active with noted reductions in speed. Pedestrian awareness with regards to student crossing was mentioned and discussed. It was recommend that a “campaign on student awareness” was needed. Several examples of students walking out into the streets and not utilizing designated crosswalks was noted. It was suggested that this concern could be a topic appropriate for the USIG group project.

Drug & Alcohol Task Group – Brandon Higgins –Drug Task Force is scheduled to meet June 2017.

Emergency Preparedness Task Group – David Oliver –No updates

Campus Partners – meeting regularly and addressing students of concern.

The meeting concluded at 10:40am