

**Minutes for Meeting of Committee on Environment, Quality of Life, and Disability Issues.  
October 29th, 2014**

**I. Present:** Leah Anderst, Benami Freier, Isabel Hocevar, Julia Rothenberg, Sebastian Murolo, Jung Joon Lee, Sheila Beck, Eber Blanco, Weier Ye, Ed Locke, Bill Faulkner, Patricia Kinneary, Clara Wajngurt.

**II. Anti-Bullying Subcommittee** - Clara Wajngurt reported that the Anti-Bullying proposal was coming to its final stages. The proposal will come to the Committee on the Environment, Quality of Life, and Disability Issues for approval before going to the Faculty Executive Committee for final approval. Discussion of the definition of bullying took place and it was stated, by Clara Wajngurt, that the Anti-bullying document does not outline the definition of bullying and it was purposely left vague.

Mr. William Faulkner spoke about Dr. Diane Call's suggestion to produce a proposal on Campus Civility as opposed to "bullying" and then to offer workshops on the topic. However, the concern was that the concept of anti-bullying is not addressed in the civility concept.

Mr. Faulkner communicated his belief that the Civility Workshops were going to proceed irrespective of the anti-bullying proposal.

**III. Continuing Points from Annual Report 2013/2014**

**• Health Services Ramp + Campus Accessibility Map**

Thank you for the new pavement outside the Health Services Bldg. and for the brand new doors installed in the entrance.

Discussion took place regarding creating a special map of the campus for students with disabilities which will detail the handicap accessible facilities, bathrooms, short cuts, etc. Details that will help with getting around the campus more efficiently.

There is an ongoing issue regarding some of the automatic doors which are often found to be non-functional. It was suggested that the doors have increased wear and tear on them due to most everyone on campus using the automatic doors and pressing the buttons to open and close them. The increased wear and tear creates the problems.

**IV. Sustainability Resolution - Voting** - It was stated that QCC is already executing most of what the Sustainability Resolution suggests. The college is working on reducing their energy footprint as we're moving forward and continues to try to meet the spirit of the Sustainability Statement rather than the 'resolution'.

It was suggested that we consider using 'reusable' plates and cups, the type that could be washed and reused. Concerns were raised about the cost and the need for keeping the dishes washed and in circulation for use. The use of styrofoam cups remains a concern since styrofoam is not biodegradable. Mr. Faulkner thought the type of styrofoam used in the cups

was environmentally friendly and will find out if that is actually the case. It was noted that Starbucks uses recyclable paper cups but there was expressed concern about people doubling up on paper cups since they might not be as strong as the foam cups.

Suggestions were made to offer Bus transportation to/from the train stations which would allow students and/or faculty to have convenient access to the trains. There is a model of this program underway at Queens College. They have established transportation to the LIRR and the Flushing station from their campus. They charge the students a \$40 - \$60 fee per semester and all students are required to pay, whether they use the service or not.

Mr. William Faulkner has been in contact with the VP of Queens College to discuss the possibility of expanding the program to include QCC. However, this would not be feasible until at least 2016.

**V. Annual Security Report** - Questions were raised as to who an initial security report is first reported to. Offenses perpetrated on campus are documented according to who/where the initial report occurred. VP Locke distributed two security handouts: Emergency Procedures Quick Guide and Campus Public Safety brochure. The public safety website is an available resource for security questions and is currently up-to-date.

A question was asked about allowing students outside the CUNY system or other outsiders to come to scheduled events being held on our campus. Security has determined that there have been difficulties in the past with allowing outsiders onto campus. A policy was developed to limit outside students from coming onto campus. It is a CUNY template and changes to it are not permitted on our own volition.

**VI. New Business** - Student representative, Eber Blanco, voiced student concern regarding the student parking lot, #6, and the lack of available parking spaces. It is difficult to see the painted lines delineating the parking spaces and the parking lot loses several spaces to flooding when it rains. Students feel it is unfair that faculty have priority to available parking spaces before the students. Students pay for parking. It was noted that if a student is late for class it does not have the same impact on the class as it would if the teacher were late.

A question was raised regarding adding additional bike racks on campus. There are currently four bike racks available on campus, some are used more than others. The DOT installs the bike racks so the possibility will be explored.