

Queen's University Library

Joint Health and Safety Committee

Minutes of Meeting January 21, 2021 – Microsoft Teams (Virtual)

9:00 AM

Present: A. Cooper (CUPE 1302), G. Akenson (QUFA), J. Lee (USW), N. Petri (Safety Officer/LM), S. Dean (Library Management), D. Langham (Director, EH&S), B. Hulme - Resource (Facilities & Maintenance Coordinator), H. McMullen (Library Management), D. Conner (CUPE 1302), K. Hernden (Library Management)

Regrets: G. Akenson (QUFA)

1. Approval of agenda
 - The agenda was approved.
2. Approval of minutes, December 10, 2020
 - The minutes were approved.
3. Business Arising
 - COVID update
 - Per the new emergency order and the lockdown order services have been adjusted to curbside and scanning only and hours have been shortened. People are using the SeQure app; seems to be going well.
4. Other/New Business
 - No other/new business.
5. Safety Officer's Report
 - Nothing to report.
6. Reports from Members
 - Alex – nothing to report.
 - Samira – nothing to report.
 - Joseph –nothing to report.
 - Dan – Reported that the university had to take a close look at the new emergency orders and the stay-at-home orders and noted that they are different orders. Nancy mentioned library specific changes under COVID update. Athletics impacted. Research still deemed essential. Still some allowances for teaching in areas like Health Care and where in-person teaching is deemed to be essential/required in some programs. Mentioned that Kingston K-12 going back to in-person instruction on January 25th due to our region's low numbers. But things can change quickly as seen in December. COVID fatigue is a challenge. He attended a meeting last week with the province's Chief Prevention Officer. The province notes that, for the most part, places of work are not sites of transmission. There are some exceptions – lunch-rooms, break-rooms, car-pooling are the key areas where people relax their guard and protocols, and transmission occurs at work. As operations gear back up,

we will need to pay attention to those spaces. Nancy mentioned that we could send a reminder to staff about these spaces. Dan noted that room layouts, masking, distancing etc. remain key. As with other rules, people slowly stop adhering over time, so check-ins are important. It was also noted that outside areas are becoming a problem. People feel they are safer outside and starting clustering without distancing. Getting to a point where we need to ask people to wear masks outside if they cannot distance.

- Nancy – nothing to report. Noted that the January inspection was postponed due to COVID.
- Heather – nothing to report.
- Brendan – nothing to report.
- Ken – nothing to report.
- Dianne – nothing to report.

Next meeting is February 24. Nancy will chair and Gillian will take minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 AM

Dianne Conner, Chair

Nancy Petri, Co-Chair