

Health and Safety Minutes For March 2008 meeting

Attending for DOCS: J. Ludwin, P. Buehler, K. Woodruff, R. Kennedy, D. Constant, and T. Wuerdeman. For PEF: J. Rosen, R. Amyot, J. Sroka, J. Gonyo, and E. Bradley

December Minutes: DOCS has reviewed December minutes and will mail them to PEF next week.

Old Business:

Item 1 Workplace Violence Legislation

The work group is being facilitated by Charlie Harvey. Superintendent Olsen, Assistant Commissioners Rivera and Kennedy, and K. Woodruff are included in the work group. Peggy Porter from NYSCOBAs, Jonathan Rosen and Jim Gonyo from PEF, Mark Stipano and Tim Stewart from CSEA. The work group has met once and since that time has completed a site visit at Washington CF with visits planned at Mohawk and Midstate. Report from Washington visit will be available soon.

Site visits seek to solicit input from staff to assess risk factors and propose solutions. These are key to a successful process. PEF proposes 10 regional civilian trainers, one for each hub. As well as training they would do recording and reporting of workplace violence issues.

Item 2 Chemical Agents

Has Dr. Wright signed fact sheet on precautionary processes for chemical agents and allowed for distribution?

Information sheet on chemical agents was sent out to all facilities recently.

Item 3 Pandemic Influenza Plan

Has DOL returned DOCS Pandemic Influenza Plan and will it be made available to PEF?

PEF was provided a copy of plan that has been distributed to all Superintendents. The document is in draft form as possible changes are quite likely. DOCS added that all personnel in RMU's are provided flu shots. PEF encourages DOCS to encourage all facilities to make access to flu shots at the job site. Some reports of flu have occurred among inmates at Bedford Hills, Lakeview, Midstate, and Mt. McGregor.

Item 4 MSDS for the new green seal floor finish product made by Corcraft.

Can DOCS provide PEF a copy of the MSDS for the new green floor finish product?

DOCS provided PEF with the MSDS for the new green floor finish product. R. Kennedy offered that Jim Hoffman at Corcraft was planning to introduce more products as required by Executive Order that are classified green and would provide PEF the MSD sheets for these products as they are introduced. This will possibly occur by summer. Contracts with new leases by OGS for DOCS buildings will be required to use green products as well. DOCS also offered that some portion packs used in a pilot project at Cocksackie proved to be not cost effective and that Corcraft was pursuing the purchase of its own machine to do these portion packs.

New Business:

Item 1 SHIP Grant

PEF anticipates applying for a SHIP Grant dependent on Contract language.

Small grants will be under \$5000, with large being up to \$15,000. Grants may be used to pay for printing of curriculum, payment for train the trainer. With a contract in place, more specific information may be available for the next meeting in June.

Item 2 Executive Order 19, Domestic Violence in the Workplace

May DOCS share with PEF its draft for Domestic Violence in the Workplace due to be implemented late this year?

Plan is due September 1, 2008. PEF ask how training will be provided, with workplace violence or will it stand alone.

Item 3 Ventilation proposal for Vocational shops

Has DOCS finalized a plan of action for ventilation in its vocational shops?

DOCS has not finalized a plan. They are proposing a five year plan to accommodate the needs of the vocational shops. PEF noted that there are potential PESH violations at welding shops and an urgent need for improvement. DOCS will provide report for June meeting.

PEF offered that all tape on exercise machines is being removed statewide as this is a potential harbor for infectious disease.

Next meeting: June 10th at PEF 9 AM

John Ludwin, NYSDOCS/Labor Relations

James Gonyo, NYSDOCS/PEF