Minutes of the Senate Committee on the Environment, Quality of Life, and Disability Issues

Queensborough Community College

Wednesday, October 23, 2019

Room M255, 12:15 pm-1:30 pm

 Present: Sara Danzi Engoron (Chair), Noelia Diaz (Secretary), Benami Freier, Chantale Damas, Mel Rodriguez, Joe Catalano, Dugwon Seo, Anthony Monahan, Clara Wajngurt, William Faulkner, Eladia Raya, Patricia Kinneary, Rashmika Patel (student representative) and Juan Vargas (student representative).

1. Introductions and welcome of new members to the committee.
2. The minutes from the previous meeting (April 17, 2019) were reviewed and approved.
3. The committee briefly discussed the report from last year, as well as the required guidelines the report must comply with. The steering committee recommended an update of guide for our committee. Three members of the committee, Chantale Damas, Anthony Monahan and Dugwon Seo volunteered to work on updating it.
4. A committee member mentioned the lack of a lactation room on campus. It was clarified that there is a lactation room located on L433. In order to gain access employees need to contact Human Resources and students need to contact Student Affairs.
5. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the proposed creation of the subcommittee on College Accessibility, said committee would be overseen and should report to the EQLD. Upon reviewing the proposed individual charges of the subcommittee it was determined that further clarification of its mission is necessary before proceeding to a vote on its approval. The committee decided to invite Jannette Urciuoli (Chair of the Subcommittee) to the next meeting on November 27 to clarify the charges. Additionally, Sara Danzi Engoron shared with the committee the Accessibility and UDL Training on Blackboard available to all faculty.
6. John Triolo briefly reviewed the Clery Report and the procedures to gather crime statistics collected on the report. He also clarified how to get in touch with Public Safety in case of an emergency.
7. The committee discussed the possibility of establishing a different format to schedule meetings. It was agreed that the current system is working well and does not need to be modified at this time.
8. Joe Catalano and Bill Faulkner will verify that the directions to the ADA compliant library bathroom are clearly indicated by adequate signs.
9. A follow up on the creation of a Child Care Center for the QCC community determined that it will be addressed by next year’s strategic plan. At the moment no available space has been identified on campus but the purchase of the Jewish Community Center (52-42 Cloverdale Blvd.) might offer new options. The committee will continue seeking updates on the creation of the Child Care Center.
10. The only new business was the clarification of the lactation room on campus.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Noelia Diaz, Committee Secretary