CAMPUS SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016, 11:00 A.M.
Lowden Hall Room 304

Present: Roger Maas, Laura Beamer, *Alan Smith, Dave Scharenberg, David Dosier, Abbey Thompson, Melanie Costello, Sam Mombou

* Committee Chair

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. The minutes from October 19, 2016 were reviewed and approved.

3. Old Business:

The Committee discussed the following topics:

- **Freedom of Expression Policy** – a discussion occurred regarding NIU’s Freedom of Expression Policy and the expansion of the Free Speech area from the MLK Commons to the entire NIU Campus. The link is [http://niu.edu/studentinvolvement/_pdf/Final-Freedom-of-Expression-Policy-10-1-16.pdf](http://niu.edu/studentinvolvement/_pdf/Final-Freedom-of-Expression-Policy-10-1-16.pdf)

  Alan Smith discussed students’ use of the freedom of expression policy to conduct protests throughout campus. Religious groups are still gathering in the MLK Commons, possibly because they may not be aware of the ability to gather or protest throughout campus. Abbey Thompson mentioned that it is positive and has been positively received. Dave Scharenberg mentioned that it is refreshing.

- **Student Protests** – a discussion occurred regarding student protests.

  Alan Smith discussed an incident in which students protested by blocking the Bus Turnaround on Friday, November 11, 2016. University Officials came out and talked with the students. The students then stopped blocking the Bus Turnaround and dispersed to a different location. There were no major incidents.

Committee members have not been approached about the freedom of expression policy or concerns about it.
• **Homecoming Events** – a discussion occurred regarding a recap of Homecoming events.

Alan Smith discussed that Homecoming was uneventful. He recapped the student dances and traffic patterns throughout campus and surrounded streets off campus such as Greek Row and John Street. NIU and DeKalb Police had extra patrols out during homecoming.

There were no incidents reported to the police concerning people in clown masks during homecoming and Halloween. There were no reported major issues during homecoming and Halloween. No one on the committee had concerns about homecoming and Halloween events.

• **Pronoun Guide** – a follow up discussion occurred about the use of pronouns.

Alan Smith printed out the pronoun guide e-mailed by Patricia Liberty-Baczek. The committee discussed their experiences and challenges with learning and using pronouns. Abbey Thompson mentioned that it is a good idea to learn about using pronouns.

Laura Beamer discussed her experience and interaction with students who have preferences and those who do not have preferences. She mentioned the need to be respectful to all people regarding their preferences, non-preferences, and the use of gender-neutral terms. She mentioned that it can be confusing to know what to call people.

4. **New Business:**

   The Committee discussed the following topics:

   • **Student Association Representatives to CSEQC** – Benjamin McCarty & Anthony Williams are new to the committee. They were added to the committee roster.

   • **Preferred Name** ([http://www.reg.niu.edu/regrec/preferredname/index.shtml](http://www.reg.niu.edu/regrec/preferredname/index.shtml))

      Alan Smith mentioned that the link to NIU website and read an e-mail from NIU discussing the use of preferred name. The committee discussed students using preferred names in classes, on rosters, on OneCards.

      Abbey Thompson mentioned a student who is thrilled about the use of preferred names because she likes being called by her nickname.

      Laura Beamer discussed students using preferred names instead of legal names on rosters and in classes. She mentioned the potential for difficulty with large class
sizes when it is time to submit grades and if names on class rosters differ from students’ preferred name.

Sam Mombou stated he liked the use of preferred name because he typically goes by his middle name. He mentioned that the use of a preferred name allows him to be called by the name he prefers.

- **World Series Results – Campus Traffic**
  Alan Smith mentioned that there were no major issues with traffic on or around campus after the World Series ended. There was a large crowd on campus that walked peacefully in streets around Grant Towers and towards MLK Commons and back towards Grant Towers. There was a large crowd off campus that walked peacefully down streets. There were no reports of property damage.

- **Election Night Results - Campus Traffic**
  Alan Smith mentioned that there were no major issues on election night (November 8, 2016). There were watch parties in the residence halls. They tended to disperse as the night progressed and it became apparent who was going to win the election. Abbey Thompson asked about the incident in which a student reported being followed by a truck in which a person had a rifle and yelled racial slurs. Dave Scharenberg mentioned that it is a legitimate concern for students and NIU Community. Alan Smith mention that NIU Police and DeKalb police looked into the incident and had patrols units patrolling the area. He discussed NIU Police patrolling on foot, on bicycles, in squads, and in campus buildings to include academic buildings and residence halls.

- **Building Captains Update**
  Dave Scharenberg mentioned that nothing new has occurred since the last meeting. A roster has not been published. He will advise if he hears anything concerning building captains.

- **Other Committee / Commissions Update**
  Abbey Thompson stated that a person mentioned at a Faculty Senate Steering Meeting that a student expressed concerns for things not being repaired in the residence halls. Dave Scharenberg mentioned that it was disheartening and is often not true.

  Dave Scharenberg discussed the process of repairing things in the residence halls and around campus are done by priority. He discussed budget concerns, priority of repairs, and frequency of repairs and damages in the residence halls. He mentioned a grease fire in Northern View and how it was handled the same evening it occurred. He mentioned the rotation of scheduled painting throughout campus and carpet repairs. He mentioned that damage is often repaired when it occurs. An exception often occurs for damage caused by students. That is often repaired after students
move out of residence halls and staff become aware of the damage. Some students do not mention the damage until they move out and others do not mention it at all.

Melanie Thompson asked how to address fire safety without having a fire safety officer. Dave Scharenberg mentioned to call Environmental Health & Safety because it still handles fire safety.

5. Announcements

Alan Smith talked about the upcoming Citizen Police Academy in 2017. He advised that he will provide additional information at the next meeting in December.

Abbey Thompson mentioned her performance in the Stage Coach play A Christmas Carol. The dates of the play were November 26th through December 4th.

6. The next meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2016, at 11:00 a.m., in Lowden Hall Room 304.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.