

Tobacco Free Committee Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2006
12 noon - 1 p.m.
AO 103

In attendance: Donna Kent (for Emily Wren), Scott Evenback, Sandy Flowers, Mark Volpatti, Karen Whitney, Bill Abston, Bob True, Carol Pferrer, Rich Strong, Deb Wezensky, Ellen Poffenberger, Maggie Stimming, Kristin Ryker, Michael Oakley, David Bivin, Marilyn Bedford, Steve Wintermeyer

I. Announcements

- A. Thank you to Student Life and Diversity for providing pizza at the meeting!
- B. New promotional items—Tobacco-free IUPUI highlighters and pens. Items were available at the meeting, and Donna will distribute them to building coordinators.
- C. IUPUI was awarded \$23,000 of the requested funding from ITPC grant proposal. The Chancellor is supplementing with the additional \$11,000.
- D. Thank you for the hard work of the committee and all those involved for seeing through the policy implementation.
- E. Thank you to everyone who participated in De-Butt-ify IUPUI. Nearly 140 people collected huge amounts of cigarette butts.

II. What's Going Well?

A. Comments

- i. It's amazing to walk across campus and not see one cigarette.
- ii. Surprise at high compliance
- iii. Smokers at Wilson Street Garage are staying on the sidewalk, and those that are there appear to be visitors.
- iv. Pockets of smokers appearing on 10th Street, Michigan Street, and New York Street sidewalks.
- v. No problems on the east side of Cavanaugh, but about 4 smokers spotted on east side of the Union Building.
- vi. No one has seen smokers in the Cancer Survivors Park.
- vii. Pockets of smokers appearing outside the conference center. The only exemptions made for the conference center are for one wing of hotel rooms. The hotel is monitoring the situation to determine if it could/should eliminate smoking in those rooms.
- viii. The local media deserve applause for focusing on the positive aspects of the policy.
 - 1. Compliments to Diane, Holly, and the awareness sub-committee for their efforts.
- ix. SLD had only received 2 or 3 frustrated emails. Most of the response has been positive.
- x. Smoke Free Indy was at a Farmer's Market where a Ball State student asked how to work toward a tobacco free policy on their campus (they currently have a 30-ft policy).

- xi. Signs placed on smoking butler poles are effective. Signs can be added to locations if needed.
- xii. Patients seen at University Hospital have been aware of the policy.
- xiii. IUPD is encouraging officers to carry cards to share with people smoking—no confrontation, just handing out information if they choose to do so.

III. What are our observations for needed improvements?

A. Comments

- i. Wishard explicitly said early on in their policy that smoking would not be permitted on their sidewalks; thus employees and others are told to cross to our property. We are then responsible for the clean-up. We need to approach them to move them back. Emily's health and safety group could take this on.
- ii. Problems with smoking outside the law building and the IT building. Karen will contact their deans.
- iii. The north side of the ET building, near the access road by the dumpster has become a hot spot. It's not a sidewalk and clearly IUPUI property.
- iv. The east side of the Union Building potentially will be an ongoing problem, as Riley families are not always aware of the policy.
- v. Smokers moving to the sidewalks has created the problem of added litter.
 - 1. Do we consider putting ash urns along the city sidewalks? Or perhaps pass out hand-held ash trays?
 - 2. If we put up ash urns, do we push them back from the sidewalks so people can walk along sidewalks without going through smoke?
 - 3. The city has added ash urns to the outsides of the bus stops. [FYI: smoking in bus stops violates the county ordinance.]
- vi. Ellen shared comments from the Staff Council Executive Meeting:
 - 1. Smoking goes on freely during evening classes.
 - a. Is it possible that part-time faculty are unaware of policy? Utilize OPD to contact them.
 - 2. The policy is effective during the day with the exception of the sidewalks along Michigan and New York.
 - 3. There is some concern about reaching international students with information of the policy as a new group of students arrive every four weeks.
 - 4. There is a feeling that staff is most susceptible for repercussions of violating the policy because they are easily identified and their supervisors can be easily contacted.
 - a. Some staff members are concerned about smoking on city sidewalks in fear that supervisors could reprimand them (only if doing so during illegal breaks).
 - 5. Smokers have been seen hanging over the railings of the North Street Garage. Signs have been added to the roof.

6. Consider how employees can vent concerns about the policy.
 - a. SLD email address is listed on the policy page. One question received to that email address asked about how much money was being spent on this effort.
7. Construction workers smoking the Vermont Street garage has been a problem, but it has been taken care of.
- vii. A student asked Maggie when the “soft-rollout” period ends and he/she needs to be concerned about consequences.
 1. Whether or not something about engagement needs to chain will be reflected in the policy assessment.

IV. Next Steps

- A. An open forum on the tobacco policy is scheduled for Democracy Plaza (BS breezeway) this Thursday at 11:30. Kristin will take notes and share with the committee.
- B. Comments on FAQs? Send them to SLD.
- C. There is one remaining meeting on the calendar.
 - i. Will this be the last meeting?
 - ii. Advice or comments on assessment?
 - iii. What to do for the spring semester?

Next Meeting: TUESDAY, October 10th at 12:00pm in AO103.