



BMCC Campus Facilities & Security Committee

MINUTES

March 2, 2022

3:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

COVID Building Operations (Jorge Yafar)

- There is no change to guidance from CUNY regarding mandatory face coverings. It is likely though an announcement will be made regarding their future within the week.
- Positive cases continue to trend downward, mirroring trends locally and nationally. This in addition to changes to the CDC guidelines for quarantine and isolation have alleviated much of the disruptions to staffing.

Facilities Projects (Eric Lugo/Judy Cheung/Jorge Yafar)

- Cooling Tower Project
 - All of the equipment necessary to complete the project is now available to the contractor after supply chain issues.
 - There is likely only one more crane pick required for the project.
 - Potential dates for the pick are March 12th or March 19th.
 - Gerard Clock requested that more notice be given to the community before crane related shutdowns. Jorge Yafar replied that it's always the intention to give the most notice possible, but if given too far in advance people may forget the shutdown is happening. He also added they do not want to send out a notification before the pick is guaranteed to occur. He cited a recent crane pick that was canceled due lack of truck driver availability, but done so before Campus wide messages were sent.
- The Library renovation continues to be in a holding pattern.
- Advocating and soliciting funds for other projects, such as the LRC renovation, continues.
- Reimagining Outdoor Areas
 - The Student Design Charette was just held. It had good participation and produced many ideas to consider.
 - The Staff/Faculty Design Charette will be held next Wednesday, March 9th. Currently participants are still being sought.
 - Thanks were given to the Committee for its outreach suggestions from the last meeting.
 - Focus groups with different divisions on Campus are also being considered.



Facilities Projects (Eric Lugo/Judy Cheung/Jorge Yafar) - Continued

- Signage and Wayfinding at Main Campus
 - There is a plan to install interactive monitors featuring wayfinding information at the landing of escalators.
 - This electrified system would allow for dynamic updates.
 - Information featured would include what's on the current floor and what's on the next.
 - The plan is start with installations on the South escalators, followed by the North.
 - Improved Door Signage
 - During the meeting images of the prototype for new door signage were shared.
 - The signs will be placed on the front of the doors. They feature the name of the department/office vertically orientated in white text on a black background. The signs are one third the width of the door, easily readable.
 - Much of the existing signage can be easily missed due to its small size and low contrast.

Public Safety (Michael Korn)

- There has been a notable increase in the number of people coming to campus without masks.
 - Whereas Public Safety had been handing out 2-3 masks per shift, recently it's been more like 50-100 masks over the course of a day.
 - It appears the general attitude amongst the community is that people are fed up with masking, however, it remains a requirement to being on Campus.
- Public Safety would like to remind faculty that they are responsible for encouraging masking compliance during their classes, it is not solely the responsibility of Public Safety.
- The number of exiting points on Main Campus has increased, including the doors on 3rd Floor South. Additionally, the Harrison Street entrance is available for special circumstances.
 - All points of entry require strict compliance with Cleared4.
- Student Ambassadors have been helping their peers navigate inputting their information into CUNYFirst/Cleared4, as well as encouraging masking compliance.



New Business

- Jorge Yafar reminded everyone to activate their Cleared4 account. He noted some community members are still unaware of Cleared4 and/or haven't been receiving Cleared4 messages because their CUNYFirst contact information is incorrect. Cleared4 uses that contact information to send messages, including when one is selected for random testing.
 - He also added that all protocols, such as suspension of access to Campus due to random testing non-compliance, are handled by Cleared4, a CUNY-wide tool. Altering them is not within the abilities of BMCC, including Public Safety.
- Gerard Clock and Igor Zaitsev brought up the concern of community members being selected for random testing during breaks. Potentially those selected will not be in the New York City area and be unable to test within the prescribed period. They asked if there was a way to exclude out-of-town community members from the testing pool. Jorge Yafar replied while it is worth consideration, at the moment there is no way at the moment to do so. He added so long as someone tests 48 hours before they return to Campus, they should be granted access if they test negative. Further, he said, it is unknown how long the random testing program will continue if positivity rates continue to decline.
- Jorge Yafar shared the installation of UVC units continues. Gerard Clock expressed gratitude for the units and all other mitigation efforts being undertaken. Jorge Yafar said all the thanks should go to the Buildings and Grounds Team for their hard work.
- Igor Zaistev asked for clarification about the "No Wipes in Our Pipes" signs in restrooms. Jorge Yafar replied the signs refer to the prohibition of flushing any wipes, flushable or non-flushable, because they clog the plumbing system.