



SPALW:
Safety Professionals and the Latino Workforce
(SPALW Common Interest Group)



Minutes from Conference Call

Date: January 27, 2011, 8 AM PDT/11 AM EDT

Participants:

Ilise Feitshans
Mario Varela
Krista Sonnenson
Mark Hernandez
Nancy Romano
Jim Guan, NIOSH
Rixio Medina
Sharon Roman, Regulatory Compliance Associates
Mery Sennett
Anibal Franco
Steve Brown
Diana Cortez, SPALW Vice-Chair
Andrea Fortenberry

Newsletter:

Krista: The articles are due to ASSE on or before March 7th. If we want to add interviews, let Krista know and ASSE will conduct the interview for us. We can just provide a list of questions and ASSE will do the interviews.

Krista said that there's a Newsletter Editor Conference Call February 15th at 1 PM Central time. Wilmarie and Zef have been invited to the call.

Rixio said that our last issue of the newsletter was excellent!

Diana asked Nancy Romano about NIOSH's new fact sheet about NIOSH and the OSHA Act. Diana thought it was excellent and asked if someone from NIOSH wanted to write an article. Nancy said she would look into it, as she wasn't familiar with it.

Please submit any articles to Wilmarie.villanueva@gmail.com

PDC:

ASSE is looking for volunteers to be greeters at the PDC. If anyone is interested, please let us know and we'll send you more information. Diana said that we also discussed it on our last call, so you can access our discussion on the web site.

Kiosk: We'll have a 42-inch space with a stand and shelves. ASSE doesn't have any expectations for the kiosk, but some ideas are names and locations of our SPALW-related sessions, flyers about our meetings, our past newsletters, etc. There's no computer monitors or electricity in these spaces. If anyone has any ideas or would like to volunteer to head up the kiosk, please let us know.

The chapter night out is Sunday to the White Sox game, WISE networking event is Sunday, Monday is gala event. Rixio asked if we're still allowed to have a social event with our advisory committee meeting.

Krista said that our meeting will be at the headquarter hotel (The Hyatt Regency). We requested Tuesday night for our meeting, Andrea asked if we can still hold our networking meeting afterward in the same room, Krista said yes that we can, we just need to let her know how long to hold our room.

Diana asked for volunteers to help plan our PDC meeting. Diana nominated Mario Varela since he's in the Chicago area and Mark Hernandez and Andrea Fortenberry also volunteered.

Website:

Our website has changed. Krista said it basically was a face-lift for the 100th anniversary. All of the same content is on there, but all of the Practice Specialties have the same look. Please let ASSE know if we have any missing items or corrections to be made. Diana said we don't have any pictures on our page anymore, Krista said that will be updated. Diana said that she thinks the new design is a little bit too busy. Krista said that she agreed.

Diana said the pictures we had before were also changed and that we preferred the previous pictures because they were of Latino workers. Krista said she would check and see if they were archived.

Luis Mendez sent some recommendations for the website. Diana sent them to Jolinda and we'll have to check back and see if those changes have been incorporated. If anyone has any other recommendations or resources that we can share, please submit your comments.

Diana asked if we could have the tracking information on how often our website is visited. Mark asked about our SPALW Linked In. Krista said we can check our LinkedIn group easily (we have 171 members), but that our web site analytics has already been requested from the web development team.

Diana asked if we could have links among the common interest groups on the sites. Krista said that she'd deliver the request to Jolinda.

Mario said that our resources were listed under Articles and not Fact Sheets, so we should have that changed so that people will easily find them.

Diana asked Ilise if we could link to any her Spanish resources on our website. She said yes, to the ILO Encyclopaedia articles. The Encyclopaedia should be available in Spanish and she'll check for us.

PDC Submissions:

Mark Hernandez said that his SPALW presentation is included in the program. Diana asked if Krista knew how many Spanish SPALW presentations we had. Krista said to check the website for the full session listing.

Translation Subcommittee:

Mario asked about the status of our translated documents. Diana said that OSHA requested the translation of more materials. Diana will send out the request from OSHA. Mario said that we never posted some of the other documents we translated, one in particular on gasoline-powered tools. Diana asked Mario to provide a list of the documents we've translated and she'll work with OSHA on getting them posted. Diana will also send them to ASSE to put on our webpage.

Membership:

Diana asked Krista for an updated roster. We'll receive updated lists every month with new members and dropped members list.

Opens:

April 28th is Workers' Memorial Day. Mark said that he'd write an article for the newsletter.

Mentoring Committee: Mark asked what the expectations are of the mentoring committee. Diana said for Mark to come up with some ideas. Mark said he currently participates in mentoring program for the CIHST. Diana said we can include a write-up in the newsletter about Rixio's scholarship. Diana said that she'd talk to Wilmarie.

If anyone has any questions or suggestions about SPALW, please contact Zef or Diana. Our newsletter is only as good as our membership makes it, so please submit any articles to Wilmarie.

Krista's Updates:

BOK Committee conference call on February 1st.

Call concluded at 9:40/11:40 AM.

Update Since Call:

Zef received information on a job posting for a bilingual Risk Control Consultant in the Miami, FL area. If you're interested, please e-mail Andrea Fortenberry at andrea@bandagroupintl.com and she can send you the information.