ASSP Hudson River Valley Chapter Meeting Minutes

Joint Technical Meeting with Hudson Valley Field Federal Safety and Health Council

October 23, 2020

1. This meeting was held in a combination type meeting, meaning that people in the area of the Rockland County Training Center at 35 Firemens Memorial Drive, Pomona, NY 10970 could attend the meeting in-person as some of the Pandemic Restrictions appear to be lifting for now, or they could attend virtually using the Microsoft Teams platform.
2. ASSP Hudson River Valley Chapter members attending the meeting using either method of attendance were: Matthew McDonald; Josephine McCaffery; Linda DiGasper; Sue May; Paul Decker; Stefan Copil; Tammy Rossomando; Tom Lowe; Bill Geerlings; Charles Von Dietsch.
3. The meeting was called to order by La Wanda Mobley President of the Hudson Valley Federal Safety and Health Council at 9:00 A.M. Introductions of the organizations present were given by

LaWanda Mobley and Linda DiGasper representing the Federal Safety and Health Council, and Matthew McDonald representing the ASSP Hudson River Valley Chapter.

1. The title of the first presentation is OSHA Update, and the speaker is Mr. Mike Levy of OSHA. OSHA was created in December of 1970 when the Occupational Safety and Health Act was signed into law by then U.S. President Richard Nixon, and covers places of employment to protect the workers.
2. A copy of the slide presentation used at this meeting is provided on the ASSP Hudson River Valley’s Files Web Page, and is titled OSHA UPDATE October 2020.
3. There are many programs from OSHA that re designed to protect the workers at various companies and conducting many different tasks. There are two distinct branches that function in OSHA. They are The Enforcement branch, and the Compliance Assistance branch. Each have different tasks within OSHA.
4. To date in 2020 OSHA has levied 1.2 million dollars against employers for COVID-19 related penalties.
5. OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialists can help an employer or group of employees to strive for a safe and healthful work place. There are many programs in place to accomplish this if they are asked to help in that location. These range from Safety Stand Down, to Young Worker Protection programs.
6. A five minute break was taken to switch to the second presentation of the morning.
7. The second presentation was titled Safety Leadership and was presented by Joyce Schroeder, President of Flourishing Culture Consultants.
8. Ms. Schroeder started the presentation by asking participants to think about the meetings we have held and to rate them from Low to High, with Low being boring and not much use; High being good and engaging the audience and generating interest. Which meeting would be more effective? Are meetings even effective at all?
9. Good points were given as tips to get a good meeting started and the participants talking in the meeting. These were – share some personal experiences about a similar incident, ask if it ever happened to anyone in the room.
10. Discuss an incidents investigation, provide a story about what was going on at the time of the incident, and describe the incident or the damage caused by the incident. Go deeper into what the incidents contributing actions were, the surroundings, as determined by the investigation of an incident, to get them involved in the topic.
11. In a meeting to achieve a goal, try using a Brain Storming effect to get the people thinking about what they could do to accomplish the goal.
12. The presentation ended at 11:00 AM. With a brief Question and Answer period.
13. The meeting went back to Linda DiGasper and LaWanda Mobley of Federal Safety and Health Council along with Matthew McDonald of ASSP Hudson River Valley Chapter to answer any questions that attendees may have thought of about each other’s organizations or the presentations we had this morning. No questions or items to discuss at this time.
14. Joint Meeting was closed at 1:02 PM Friday, October 23, 2020.