



Horticulture Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 | 4:00 | Room 3302 & Zoom

Agenda Item

LPC Mission Statement

Las Positas College is an inclusive, learning-centered, equity-focused environment that offers educational opportunities and support for completion of students' transfer, degree, and career-technical goals while promoting lifelong learning.

LPC Planning Priorities

- ❖ Establish a knowledge base and an appreciation for equity; create a sense of urgency about moving toward equity; institutionalize equity in decision-making, assessment, and accountability; and build capacity to resolve inequities.
- ❖ Increase student success and completion through change in college practices and processes: coordinating needed academic support, removing barriers, and supporting focused professional development across the campus.

Horticulture Advisory Board

Members:

Tyler	Coen
Laura	Cornett *
Paula	Checchi *
Abby	Lourenco
Lynn	Monica
Jean	O'Neil-Opipari *
Victor	Ruesga
Eric	Santos *
Vicki	Shipman
Michael	Soares *
Jacquie	Williams- Courtright
Beth	McCormick
Loren	

1. Call to Order 4:10

2. Welcome and Introductions

Eric Santos,

3. Review of Agenda

4. Review and Approval of Minutes, May 9, 2024

5. College Update

- Fall 2024 Enrollments
- Offered 5 classes this Spring
 - Hort 52 – Spring Plant Material ID, Zoe Karen
 - Hort 54 - Landscape and Vineyard Soils, Robbie, cross-listed
 - Hort 55 – Greenhouse, Nursery, Garden Management, Robbie
 - Hort 57 – Landscape and Turfgrass Management, TBA working on the instructor, curriculum broader than title
 - Hort 73 - Computer-Aided Design, in interior design (Jill) – software not hort specific, but still worthwhile, cross-listed
- Early enrollment started yesterday
 - LPC Olive Harvest
 - Saturday, November 23, 2024
 - 9:00 am
 - Bring gardening gloves and water
 - Meet in the E lot across from the olive trees
 - Community milling on November 24
 - Would love a small press, Dan Cearly working on a grant for that a small press
 - Watch for fruit fly damage – probably not too bad this year.
- Urban agriculture offered in the fall
 - Found a Soils and Urban Ag. Teacher
- Maybe an apprenticeship for an arborist in the future (next Spring)
- Arboriculture curriculum
- Laura took a Stop Waste training
- Laura working on getting younger folks in to teach

6. If your company needs a community service project, you can do one here!

- Irrigation installation in shade house and North orchard
- Complete irrigation installation in South orchard
- Put together small greenhouse
- Cardboard sheet mulching in South orchard

- Plant oak trees and extend drip lines to trees (4 Oak trees to plant)
- Construct raised beds in growing grounds
- Would like to start a community garden at LPC
- Projects could start at any time, but probably best while students are on campus
- Loren at Allied is interested

7. Opportunities for industry to hold meetings here to promote the LPC Horticulture Program

- Great place to hold meetings
- Brings awareness to college
- Good for students to attend

8. Industry Updates

- Training and Hiring Needs
 - Turf grass (synthetic) – students are interested, but may be outlawed, top seller, not loved by industry
 - Green infrastructure (Soils or landscape maintenance)
 - Bio-swell (made up of sand, frequent watering until established)
 - Reclaimed water (expensive to bring a meter to new location, capacity issue)
- Emerging Trends
 - CLCA presentation on electrical equipment
 - Electric Mower, like rhumba
 - Solar fields
 - Handheld moisture sensors
- Internship Opportunities
 - Allied Landscape - no internships
 - Alden Lane not hiring
 - What does an internship look like? Expose students to cool projects, business functions, around 8-10 weeks, 40 hrs
 - Look for interns in March for the summer
 - Personal growth, connection with employers

9. Advice from the Board

- Seeking instructors for Landscape and Turfgrass Management & Spring Plant Materials
- Industry thankful that LPC has a Horticulture program
- Program growing, instructors very enthusiastic about their field

10. Recommendations from the Board

11. Next Regular Meeting: Thurs, May 1, 2025, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

12. Adjournment: 5:06