



Horticulture Advisory Board DRAFT Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2025 | 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

1. Call to Order 4:13

2. Welcome and Introductions, Tyler, Tod, Lynn Monica, Laura Cornett, Paula, Jean, Beth M

3. Review of Agenda

4. Review of Minutes, November 13, 2024

5. College Update

- Spring 2025 Enrollments
- Offered 5 classes this Spring
 - Hort 52 – Spring Plant Material ID
 - Hort 54 - Landscape and Vineyard Soils (Cross-listed)
 - Hort 55 – Greenhouse, Nursery, Garden Management
 - Hort 57 – Landscape and Turfgrass Management
 - Hort 73 - Computer Aided Design (Cross-listed)
- Fall 2025 Classes
 - Hort 50 – Introduction to Horticulture
 - Hort 60 – Landscape Irrigation Systems
 - Hort 62 – CA Native Dry Landscapes
 - Hort 74 – Introduction to Urban Agriculture
 - Not having the same problem with fraud in the Fall that we had last semester
 - Fall Plant ID, then Spring Plant ID to track in the future
 - Beth working with Goodness Village to teach gardening, connection with LPC to provide career training. Laura will contact them.
 - Abby is a great instructor, but working in Oakland
 - Abby may be a good replacement for Laura
- Zoe's class started planting a new orchard across from the existing orchard
- Olive Harvest, good amount, but small fruit because canopy is
- Look up results in banner, ask IR, do survey too thick
 - Time crunch to get to community press
 - Cannot harvest all fruit, fruit on the ground perpetuates fruit flies
- Apprenticeship with for an arborist at LPC?

- Are we tracking graduates? When Tyler was going through training, classes were offered sporadically. If we track students who want to finish degree, we may be able to anticipate upcoming enrollment
 - Look in banner, IR, do survey to help track student success
 - Understand student needs
- Resurrected the Hort Club
 - Activity of the club creates community
 - Natalia asked for an additional letter of rec, going to trainings, loves irrigation
 - Have a counselor come speak to classes at the beginning of the semester
 - Fall Career Fair at the Hort building
 - Farming, urban farming, Victoria Chavez possible resource, from Sunflower Hill, she also works with Stop Waste
- Hort 73 – software not for horticulture, but tools are flexible (was using Invisionaire)
 - Get a horticulture based CAD program in future, include in Principles of Landscape Design class, should be required in curriculum because it is an industry standard. Key skill, LSO Auto CAD lite
 - Use computer lab for course
 - Tyler uses Real Time Landscape Architect

6. Industry Updates

- Training and Hiring Needs
- Emerging Trends
 - Urban Farming
 - Incorporating social media in how to, day to day ops, sales increasing traffic and audience
 - Incorporating business skills
 - Cross list with business class?
 - Get more guest speaker
- Internship Opportunities
 - Oakland not hiring
 - Friend of Sosil Creek, rehabbing Joachim Miller Park, partnering with Friends and OFD to remove invasive species and replace with natives
 - Connect with local park services, Tri-Valley Conservancy

- Tyler – Black Diamond is hiring and internship opportunities always
- Loren is on the state license board, CA State License Board

7. Recommendations from the Board

- Explore adding a community garden at LPC
 - Soft opening to students and faculty
 - Will come to facilities meeting in the Fall to pitch garden
 - Apply for Rotary Grant in the fall
 - Partner with teachers for LVJUSD for training, etc
- Explore Industry Irrigation workshops
 - Important to increase enrollment because there are jobs
 - Foothill College has hands-on, in-depth irrigation workshop (Weekend)
- Incorporate landscape-relevant software
- Motion to approve previous 3 items by Lynn, 2nd by Tyler motion carries

8. Good of the Order

- Lynn, what happened with the adaptive program
 - Lost funding for grant secured by PUSD. The program did not meet the needs of the grant.

9. Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, October 28, 2025, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

10. Adjournment