

East Area One Educational Task Force
Thursday, August 27, 2015, 3:30 – 5:00 PM
Location: Ventura College Santa Paula Site

Present: Raquel De Los Santos, Kay Faulconer, Bob Gonzales, Tomas Gonzalez, Tim Harrison, Lynn Jacobs, Perry Martin, Jesse Ornelas, Ernie Villegas, George Williams

Recorder: Sabrina Canola

Meeting Notes:

Meeting commenced 3:40pm.

Agenda Item	Summary of Discussion	Action (If Required)	Assigned to:
Welcome and Introductions			
Announcements	<p>A concern was raised in that three Task Force members on the committee are associated with Limoneira. The issue raises the concerns of the public’s perception that Limoneira is influencing the direction of the Task Force. Ernie indicated that Limoneira has contracted Villegas Public Affairs to utilize the company’s experience, connections, and resources to provide consultation in terms of the Educational Center, in addressing the City’s water issues, and other activities in which Limoneira is actively involved.</p> <p>Tim indicated that this Task Force has served as an “insight” group to frame a conceptual report, however, it must be transparent and ensure that all key players and competitors are at the table. Tim recommended this matter be discussed at length at a future meeting.</p>	Add this topic to a future meeting.	Task Force
Update from Santa Paula Unified School District	George indicated that the Superintendent’s Office is in the process of gathering proposals for the 8 acres set aside for Santa Paula Unified. An MOU to change the proposed elementary school from a K5 to a K8 is still pending. This new development will relieve the impacted student body at the elementary schools and Isbell Middle School. Santa Paula Unified has been meeting with Fillmore Unified to discuss a joint project to address the impacted student populations of both high schools.		
Administering High School Surveys	The high school survey was designed with the input of Ventura College’s Institutional Effectiveness Office for consistency between the high school survey and the college survey. During survey administration, students will have an accompanying supplementary sheet that breaks down the pathways and employment opportunities within the industry sectors. In order to not skew the data, the supplementary sheet will not include incomes. The goal is	Coordinate logistics for the administration of high school surveys at SPS.	George, Perry

	obtain a minimum of 220 surveys from high school seniors. Perry will coordinate with George to work out the logistics for the administration of the survey.		
Review Draft of Community Survey	<p>The community survey will be administered in the form of a phone survey. The interviewer will input the interviewee's responses onto a survey monkey template. Phone surveys will be conducted to targeted residents of Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru.</p> <p>Task force members reviewed questions, on the community survey and made recommendations to refine the questions and their sequential order. Jesse recommends running a mock survey to identify potential problematic issues.</p>	Send recommendations to Perry	Task Force
Programming Discussion	<p>Guest speaker, Tomas Gonzalez, Limoneira's Manager of Food Safety and Sustainability, discussed the potential for a food safety certificate and degree program as part of the Ventura College's upcoming Agriculture Business strand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On behalf of Limoneira, Tomas has developed essential Agriculture Practices (that address issues such as soil inputs, water analysis, pesticide application records, employee training, and topics in growing and harvesting in the field) Manuals. Since 2000, he has developed binders to address "from the field to the dock." Tomas indicated that President Obama signed a law modifying food safety. Currently, it is not being enforced due to the lack of funds and agents to regulate incoming and outgoing products. Enforcement is targeted for late 2016 at which point facilities will be inspected unannounced. Some facilities are waiting for the law to be enforced and others are being proactive and training now. Tomas' goal is to create a food safety committee consisting of industry professionals and representatives from the education level. He views food safety as having a competitive edge in the current job market. As part of a Certification Program, he can offer field, plant, lab tours, and internships. He believes the program is viable in Ventura County. Lynn indicates that a food safety program could also attract foreign students who then return to their countries to make sure their fields are in compliance. 		
Timeline August – October 2015	No discussion		
Schedule Next Meeting	TBA		

Adjourn: 5:00pm