

President's Meeting

UNIFORMING

ALL PRESIDENTS | Recently ODOC and OSP administration has implemented policy decisions at OSP in order to bring OSP in uniformity with policies across the state, despite the inadequacies specific to OSP. The presidents would like to gain a better understanding of the thinking behind these decisions. The presidents respectfully request the presence of an ODOC Director/Institutions Administrator for this discussion.

Administration | Mr. McClay, Institutions Mgr was scheduled, but had a conflict at the last minute. He will come in soon.

Hot Pots

LIFERS | OSP's position seems that the institution isn't against hot pots, but the fire marshal voiced liability concerns over the potential for grease fires. We challenged that through research, (grease fires ignite between 375 and 450 degrees. Hot pots don't boil water, they only reach 180 or so degrees. So we asked "how can we get to a resolution?"

Administration | This will be discussed at the next Management meeting. They acknowledge OSP is unique, not having dayrooms with hot water access. This has been on the agenda for a while, so they intend to get a resolution on this.

Canteen Updates (Lifers)

Shoes: Through multiple meetings with the shoe vendor, there is a commitment from the vendor to completely revamp the way shoes are provided. There will be more consistent catalog updates, every 6 months instead of annually, with the next one coming out in the June/July timeframe. We expect the Nike Air Max shoes to also be available then. At-Once advertisements will be more frequent, with at least 6-8 shoe options.

Mesh bags: Samples of OCE manufactured mesh bags are currently under review.

Latin food options: Large tortilla shells and chipotle sauce were recently added, per Latino Club requests. Additionally, we are currently reviewing about a dozen other Latin foods, including a variety of hot sauces/salsas, beans and more.

Video Kiosk Reset Switch

VETERANS | By way of example, the video kiosks for Alpha 1 and 2 have been down for about two weeks. Emails have been sent and all notified, as well as AIC complaints through the phone system, but they are still not repaired. There are plenty of staff who could have facilitated this reset.

Administration | Day-after-power-test resets should be implemented here soon.

Mattresses

VETERANS | Mattresses have not been ordered for several years and many are now in need of replacement. Now, in an effort to mitigate the lack of a proper mattress, AICs are using blankets under their current mattresses and are receiving cell-ins for it. We still have the problem where medical is stating they have nothing to do with mattresses and group living not having any to give. We're working with Group Living for a solution, but as of yet none have been purchased.

Administration | We'll have follow-up conversations and get the process of ordering going and discuss messaging concerning the use of blankets in the meantime.

IM Photo Equipment Upgrades

UHURU | It's been two months since IM Photo has been able to process photos. The new activities network system is not compatible with current processes. For example, information is unable to be processed in a way that imprints on the back of the photos – a process that's required. Additionally, SD cards have been removed, so there is no way to get data to the vendor for processing. IM Photo has two proposals ready to remedy the situation in the long term, but a solution is needed now. Toastmasters can speak further on this.

TOASTMASTERS | Proposals have not yet been submitted. IT is continuing to work solutions. But they have been unable to patch in a fix for the imprinting. I don't know if this was made clear, but with no SD cards, yard photos are unable to even be taken right now.

Administration | We'll follow up on this.

President's Meeting continued...

Geriatric A

TOASTMASTERS | As part of the *Lifers/Willamette University New Direction's* workshops, we are identifying a number of suggestions for changes which can be made which address issues specific to the geriatric crisis at OSP and across the state. With the help of students and professors, we are researching the issues affecting the aging population. We have had discussions with staff like the ADA Coordinator to better get context on issues they've tried to address. We will be submitting a report very soon to the superintendent as well as looking into potential legislation to address the overall issue in the state. Locally, it will include a spectrum of possible solutions, from ideas like in-cell nature sounds to mitigate the amount of stress the elderly population face due to tier noise, (which may be as simple as authorizing a channel through our current subscriptions which play nature sounds through the TV Room) to addressing the bigger concern of things like the ramp going down to the showers (which may be mitigated through an ADA lift or possibly an extension of the ramp to better address the slope.) We are breaking this report into three major parts: one for the local OSP needs, one for the overall state remedies, and one for the theory of change to address the overall mindset as prisoners age.

LIFERS | One of the things that has already come out of this class has been how we respond to individuals such as Charles Smith, a lifer who was released from death row in the early 90's. There is no safety net. Suffering from dementia, he was originally issued a lifer peer companion but then relocated to ICH (special housing lockdown), which ironically was where he lived while on death row. To address it, we approached Ms. Volkova, BHS Manager, to institute a pilot program. Now Charles Smith is picked up three times each week to have a meal in the chow hall and then to activities to spend time with familiar faces drinking coffee and putting puzzles together. This solution comes at no cost to the facility, it only requires ingenuity. We'd like to expand this to others across the institution.

Toastmasters | Windows in the Blocks

With the summer heat coming on again, it's the time that we have to raise the issue of opening the windows in the blocks. Some are already bringing up the issue with the limited amount of warm days we've already had. We know what the answer typically is, but what other mitigation is there? We know the fans will offer some mitigation, but what's the status of those?

Administration | The fans have been purchased and engineering is finalizing their part.

Toastmasters | Infirmary Balcony

There have been recent issues with the tower in front of the infirmary balcony threatening write-ups for standing too close to the edge. It sounds like there were some issue with an infirmary resident throwing something from the balcony and that resulted in the response that many residents are receiving now. It seems like if there is a legitimate issue, it would be broadcasted as a policy. But more logically, it seems like maybe just signage to the effect of "Don't throw anything from the balcony" would be enough. To stress infirmary residents out in a space intended to provide calming seems like an unnecessary response.

Administration | We'll look into this.

Lifers | Car Show

Is the Car Show happening?

Administration | No.

APFC | Yard Cooling Stations

The cooling stations are being shut down 15 minutes prior to the yard closure. With the sports going on, this means that people are having to go back to their cells dirty, which can be a cause for concern. We understand that people have to manage their time accordingly, and if there are issues with people not being ready at the time of yard close, they would have to be held responsible. But closing the cooling stations early seems unnecessary. Can this be reviewed?

Administration | Accessibility was the point of those stations. I didn't know they were being closed early. We'll look into that.