



Horticulture Advisory Board

Agenda

Thurs, April 15, 2026 | 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: 4:06

2. Welcome and Introductions

Tyler Coen, Lynn Monica, Eric Santos, Laura Cornett, Jean O'Neil-Opipari

3. Review of Agenda

4. Review of Minutes, October 23, 2025

5. College Update

- Spring 2026 Enrollment that VWT has had
- Most classes have between 10 – 15 students
- Have not had the boost in enrollment that VWT has had
- Spring 2026 Class
 - Hort 53 - Landscape and Vineyard Pest and Disease Management (crosslisted with VWT)
 - Hort 56 - Arboriculture/Urban Forestry
 - Hort 71 - Fundamentals of Hydroponics and Aquaponics
 - Hort 63 – Sustainable Landscape Strategies to increase enrollment
- Fall 2026- already have enrollment for Fall, increase budget for student assistant to \$3K to \$7.5K
 - Hort 50 – Intro to Horticulture
 - Hort 51 Fall Plant Material Identification
 - Hort 59 – Landscape Design – All the different design classes available, mastering principles important
 - List instructors
- Learn how to liaise with the community
- Marketing for horticulture
- **Lynn motions to incorporate/crosslist marketing and or business classes with hort classes, Tyler second, motion carries**
- Loren has inquired if the LPC Hort program could grow plants for Allied Landscaping
 - Biggest cost in growing is water
 - Can students earn internship hours
 - **Tyler motions to explore Lorens request, Lynn seconds, the motion carries**
- Contract growing

- Club issues-Horticulture Club
 - Events, Work Days, Plant Sales
 - The Horticulture Club has been deactivated because one officer is not eligible. Student Life will not tell the student why he is ineligible. Serious lack of communication
 - Not student focused
 - Current VP is taking his last class
 - CTE students are often taking classes at night and a club helps them foster a sense of community.
 - In order to increase the student pool for a club can Hort and VWT should join forces?
 - Budget transfers and equipment purchases are on hold until the club is reactivated in the fall.
 - Student has not returned to the club since he was told he was ineligible
- Earth Day Activities
 - Send flyer to advisory for Earth Week activities
- Re-examine the Greenhouse Class for the business component
- Need an increase in manpower to liaise with food pantries
 - Connect Laura with Paul in Basic Needs
- CLCA, Master Gardeners
 - Value of having community groups hold events here on campus
- Resurrect Adaptive Hort, the regional center is interested
 - 2027 is the goal date, Lynn and Susan Houghton are spearheading this effort
 - The program is probably going to be small
 - Internship possibilities
 - Maybe able to use some foundation funds for this project (\$10K)
- Lynn invited the advisory to visit Sunflower Hill
 - Just did some major renovations, shade structure
 - Spring planting last weekend
- Sunflower Hill has become [vendorized](#) in order to get funding for the regional center.
- Master Gardeners gave LPC all the plants left over from their plant sale. Master Gardeners grew those plants at LPC.

6. Industry Updates

- Training and Hiring Needs
- Emerging Trends
- Internship Opportunities
 - Eric is new in his current job, may have internship opportunities in the future
 - Big push at the end of Q2 & Q3
 - Black Diamond is always looking for new employees on the hort. and business sides.
 - [Shrub Hub](#) purchased by [Belgard](#) – may be opportunities there
- Eric and Tyler will participate in an employer event on Monday.

7. Recommendations from the Board

- 8. Next Regular Meeting:** Thursday, October 15 at 4:00 pm
- 9. Adjournment**