

# **Honda PACT Program Advisory Committee Meeting**

**November 21, 2019**

## **Minutes**

**Members Present:** Phil Rohde, AHM; Rob Dykstra, Lynnwood Honda; Mike Flahert, AHM; Rich Gray, Lynnwood Honda; Jon Lai, Acura of Lynnwood; Martin Leigh, Honda of Kirkland; Robert Macias, AHM; Pete McCue, Bellevue High School; Brian Moore, AHM; Paul Svenkerud, Carter Subaru/Acura of Lynnwood; Bob Biesiedzinski, Honda PACT Instructor; Brandie Biering, SCC; Lauren Hadley, SCC; Guy Hamilton, SCC; Tanner Emery, Current PACT Student; Alex Rogers, Lynnwood Honda

Bob welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited everyone to help themselves to lunch.

The meeting was called to order at 11:44a.m. by Rob Dykstra. Everyone went around the table and introduced themselves.

Last advisory meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

State of the PACT Program.

Program Enrollment: Bob asked for help to get more potential dealer students.

Recruitment: Bob asked everyone to take brochures to their dealership to be put out in the waiting area. Guy asked everyone if they are involved with High schools. Rob Dykstra said he is on Bothell's high school advisory committee.

Graduation: Bob announced 14 students to graduate tonight and invited everyone to attend.

Bob acknowledged Honda of Seattle for their help in covering graduation gifts. Bob also mentioned Lynnwood Honda, Honda of Kirkland, and Acura of Bellevue as being willing to donating funds to cover graduation gifts. Bob explained that due to the timing of the offer from Honda of Seattle, and the amount they are willing to provide, that they would cover the expense for this year. Bob would like to create a Shoreline Foundation account so that each dealership could donated funds amount of money to help with graduation funds and other funds for the program. The general consensus of the dealership members was positive. Bob will submit an email request to the dealer service managers, along with the meeting minutes to determine viability of funding the account.

Rob turned the meeting over to Guy Hamilton. Guy talked about the budget crisis but informed everyone that the college is still committed to the Honda PACT program. Guy informed everyone that some of the partnerships with the college are changing. Paul Svenkerud told Guy that he heard that Toyota was taking over the program/ building and wanted to confirm that the college still supported the Honda Program 100%. Paul further questioned how Toyota can have so many more students than the other programs and asked where all of these potential students would be working. Robert Macias mentioned that AHM just did a study and Toyota has 1 more store than Honda in Seattle and Tacoma. Bob asked if a survey of the number of technician stalls was considered when looking at demand. Brian Moore indicated that was taken into consideration, but did not have immediate data available. Bob explained that the Toyota Program has an advantage in recruiting due to their class schedule and having

two instructors. Bob has scheduled high school visits in the coming months that will help with enrollment numbers for the next cycle of the program.

Bob asked the service managers if it would be okay to bring in a high school senior into the dealership to shadow a half a day or day. Pete mentioned that his school has done job shadowing in the past. He also mentioned that the high school student can only go to do a job shadow if they have insurance so that it would not affect the dealership L&I. Rich Gray said that he has had students come to his dealership before, and they had to sign release forms before the student could come. All of the stores agreed to be able to do the shadowing.

Bob asked if when he went to high schools to do recruiting if he would be able to take a tech from the field with him. Consensus was it was possible, providing work scheduling did not create a conflict.

Guy brought up an idea that Scott Main, SCC GMASEP Instructor, suggested a training for technicians that are going to be mentoring. Guy talked about having a course/class on how to be a mentor. The class would be convenient for the tech. Consensus is that it would be a good idea and the dealers would consider sending technicians to the class.

Rob asked if any of the service managers have thoughts about how to communicate with their Honda PACT students to see how they are doing in class and what they are working on. Bob mentioned that he told his students to make the effort to talk to their managers. Daniel Legg mentioned that whoever passes out the workload should also get on board with helping train the students by giving the student jobs that follow what they have learned in class. Guy explained how we have to teach the new students SOFT SKILLS now, unlike older people who already know these skills. Rob suggested finding a mentor that can relate to the students would help. Bob was thinking of having the students seek a mentor next quarter by speaking with the technicians in their dealership service department. Pete said to call the students Automotive high school teacher and they could tell you if the student will be a good tech or not.

Tanner thanked the school for the new projector. But also mentioned that they have equipment that needs repair like the broken lift that they can only park a vehicle in. Tanner asked for newer cars for the students that come after him. Tanner agreed with what everyone said about the mentorship.

Brian Moore mentioned that they do not have a budget to buy vehicles for schools. That they use buy backs and transportation damaged vehicles to get cars for school programs. If you have a concern you can take it to the dealer national board. Then the concern goes thru them and back to Brian Moore to get the issue taken care of.

Renton College has signed an agreement for a PACT Collision program. Shawn Ervin is the program instructor there.

On January 20th the old version of America Honda University is coming back. This was greeted with a collective appreciation as the current version of Honda online training is very challenging.

Bob will send out an email asking all employers what their hiring requirements are. The college wants to be up front and honest with the potential student of any upfront issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:29p.m.