



Approved Minutes  
February 24, 2010

Present: Chris Jines, Cynthia York, Angie Goebel, Donna Dippel, Jacqueline Spainhour, Debbie Whiteside, Frank Nagy, Catherine Vaughan, Michelle Herrmann, Melissa Miller, Donna Evinger, Shannon Hoehn, Mary Ann Bernard, Terri Alvey, Charlene Kaufman, Julie Bordelon and Samoa Hempfling and Jeri Broshears

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chris Jines called the meeting to order at 3:01p.m.

Approval of January 27, 2010 minutes with corrections, motion by Frank Nagy, seconded by Debbie Whiteside.

**Economic Benefits Committee:** The Committee did not meet in February. Chris Jines reported on the February 16, 2010 budget presentation stating that the charts and graphs provided by the Council were well received. President Bennett said that our retirement may be scrutinized by the legislature in light of what happened with Purdue. The remaining three proposals drew no immediate comment.

**Employee Relations:** Jacqueline Spainhour reported on the Staff Picnic to be held May 19, 2010 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Carter Hall. A tentative menu has been discussed with Catering Manager, Ann Fisher. Hamburgers, hot dogs, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, chips, sheet cake and ice cream with iced tea or water can be offered for \$4.25 per person. Using this menu, the cost per person would be less than last year's and is feasible under the \$2,900 line item budgeted for the event. Variations on the vegetarian offering of macaroni and cheese were discussed and it was noted that adding fresh vegetable trays would increase the cost per person by about \$1.00. Chicken was suggested as an alternative for hot dogs since most people like chicken and think it would be a better choice. Pricing to replace the hot dogs with chicken or chicken salad will be explored.

The cake decoration will reflect the 20 year birthday of the Council. Students may be showcased for entertainment which could include clowns, balloon animals and magic acts at a projected cost of \$100. Gift bags with tissue along with boxes wrapped as presents will serve as table decorations.

It was confirmed that invitations to original Staff Council members would be sent for the Fall luncheon and not the Staff Picnic.

Melissa Miller advised that Access USI reported on Student Worker Appreciation week including an interview with a student worker from the Registrar's Office.



**Nominating Committee:** Michelle Herrmann reported that six nominations have been received and that two Council members are willing to stay on. A reminder email will go out tomorrow, February 25, as well as a support email from Donna Evinger to personnel managers. The new nominations deadline is March 5, 2010.

**Web Committee:** No report.

**Old Business:** Chris Jines explained that Julie Brauser has sent the professional development proposal to President Bennett but has not received any feedback to date. Julie's schedule would not permit her to attend today's meeting.

No reply has been received from Brian Morrison with regard to the pending emergency preparedness presentation. The presentation will be offered by the Red Cross at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Thursday, March 11, 2010 in Carter Hall D. Donna Evinger suggested that Steve Woodall be contacted as well.

**New Business:** As a reminder, Chris Jines reviewed the Fund Raising Policy managed by the University Office of Development. The entire policy is available in the University Handbook and also on the Foundation web page.

Catherine Vaughn volunteered to serve as the Staff Council representative on the University Wellness Committee with Dave Enzler and Donna Evinger. Charlene Kaufman also expressed interest in the term post which ends July 01, 2011. The Committee will be expanding its mission beyond the oversight of the Wellness Fair to promote a healthier campus overall.

**Discussion/Announcements:** Mary Ann Bernard, Secretary of the Environmental Stewardship Committee, brought it to the Council's attention that the University spends a quarter of a million dollars a month on Vectren services. A two month lab test showed a savings of several hundred dollars resulting from shutting computers down at night. The Committee would like to encourage everyone to shut their computers down, when possible, before leaving for the day.

Donna Evinger responded to Jacqueline Spainhour's inquiry about why Human Resources did not issue a notice of an increase in federal tax. Donna explained that there actually was no federal tax increase. In March of 2009, as part of the Federal Stimulus Package, a tax cut went into effect and was applied over the remaining 9.5 months of 2009. Going into 2010, the same amount was applied but had to be spread over 12 months creating a smaller credit. Donna



added that depending on individual circumstances, the change was not immediately evident on all payroll checks which may have added to employee confusion.

The next meeting of the Staff Council will be March 24, 2010 at 2 p.m. in UC214.

Meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m. with motion by Frank Nagy seconded by Julie Bordelon.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia York, Secretary