



Approved Minutes
March 24, 2010

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

CALL TO ORDER: Chris Jines called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Approval of February 24, 2010 minutes as submitted, motion by Kathi Goen, seconded by Julie Bordelon.

Economic Benefits Committee: The Committee did not meet in March.

Employee Relations: Jacqueline Spainhour reported that the staff picnic planned for May 19, 2010 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Carter Hall will be changed due to a conflict with President Bennett's schedule. The new tentative date is May 18, 2010 from 11 am to 1 pm in Carter Hall. Jackie will send an email confirmation of the new date as soon as it is approved by Donna Koewler with Special Events and Ann Fisher with Catering.

Nominating Committee: Michelle Herrmann reported that eleven candidates have agreed to be on the ballot. Biographies are due from the candidates in mid April. The voting is set for early May.

Web Committee: No report.

Old Business: Chris Jines reported that the Professional Development proposal remains with President Bennett. To date, no response has been received.

The Emergency Preparedness presentation by the Red Cross went well. Steve Woodall from USI Security and Bryan Morrison from USI Risk Management and Safety also spoke. Suggestions such as keeping batteries in the freezer and keeping three days of medications on hand were discussed.

New Business: Chris Jines reported that a call has gone out for additional Employee Ambassadors as well as an Ambassador Coordinator. Ambassadors take new support staff on campus tours and provide information and fast facts about USI. Samoa Hempfling volunteered to act as Coordinator while Jacqueline Spainhour, Debbie Whiteside, and Kathi Goen volunteered to serve as new Ambassadors. It was noted that Physical Plant conducts their own campus tours to include third shift workers.

Julie Bordelon reported on the following recommendations proposed by the University Smoking Committee:

1. No tobacco use on campus
2. Tobacco use on campus only in vehicles
3. Tobacco use on campus only in vehicles and in parking lots



4. Tobacco use on campus only in strategically placed, designated areas
5. No change in campus tobacco use policy

Discussion followed with regard to enforcement as well as smoker's rights and second hand smoke. Donna Evinger reiterated that restrictive policy with regard to tobacco use on campus does not work whereas education does. Free nicotine patches and smoking cessation classes are currently available on campus but the university community is not well-informed of these services. Constituent groups need to be listened to, surveyed and then educated. USI is the only university in Indiana without a tobacco free or smoke free policy.

Discussion/Announcements: The Council voted to keep the current "Adopt-A-Spot" location bordering the square outside of the forum building. The Home Depot plant give away is Saturday, May 1, 2010. Kim Jost and Chris Jines volunteered to pick up the plants but all interested council members are welcome. Free coffee and donuts will be available.

Teri Alvey suggested that the background of the Staff Council website be changed from red to blue. Chris Jines agreed to check with Sheree Seib on the background color.

The next meeting of the Staff Council will be April 28, 2010 at 2 p.m. in UC214.

Meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m. with motion by Kim Jost seconded by Debbie Whiteside.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia York, Secretary