



Approved Minutes
August 25, 2009

Present: Chris Jines, Melissa Miller, Michelle Herrmann, Charlene Kaufman, Terri Alvey, Mary Ann Bernard, Debbie Whiteside, Samoa Hempfling, Angie Goebel, Donna Dippel, Shannon Hoehn, Jeri Broshears, Cynthia York and Pat Zimmerman from Human Resources.

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Jines called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

Approval of July 28, 2009 minutes with corrections, motion by Michelle Herrmann, seconded by Samoa Hempfling.

Economic Benefits Committee: Shannon Hoehn reported for Chair, Frank Nagy. Frank will be meeting with Zoe Sipes regarding guidelines for the upcoming compression study. Charlene Kaufman asked if the committee is still pursuing information on reciprocal agreements with Purdue, IU, IUPUI and Ball State concerning retirement and short term disability. Shannon Hoehn agreed to contact Faculty Senate for information they may already have with regard to reciprocal agreements.

Employee Relations: Archibald's Closet drive is set for September 14-25, 2009. Subcommittees were established to publicize the drive on campus and distribute boxes and posters.

Nominating Committee: Angie Goebel stated that the Nominating Committee will begin meeting just before Christmas break. One candidate name for Staff Council has already been received.

Web Committee: No Web Committee report.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: Chris Jines received an ADA compliance complaint regarding a curb which does not comply which is on the boulevard between the old and new libraries. Chris has contacted Doug Goepfner and he agreed to refer the inquiry on to Miles Mann. Chris followed up with Doug and was advised that an asphalt or concrete ramp would be installed as soon as possible.



Shannon Hoehn related a security concern involving an August 24 incident in which distance education had arranged for an escort with campus Security for a student worker proctoring a non-credit computer proficiency test ending at approximately 10 pm. Campus Security apparently did not follow through on the escort and Steve from Physical Plant eventually escorted the student worker to her car. It was generally agreed that the situation was highly unusual.

Discussion/Announcements: Samoa Hempfling challenged the council to come up with ideas and activities that would restore familiarity among staff. Discussion of office retreats, name tags, department scavenger hunts and department ice breakers followed. Chris Jines stated that the growth at USI has mostly contributed to the loss of the small town school feeling. One possibility is to build this initiative into the 20th Anniversary Celebration. Charlene Kaufman suggested that a department scavenger hunt could be introduced at the staff picnic and then awards given at the Employee Appreciation Luncheon. Special permission would need to be obtained as there is a set program for the luncheon and Staff Council does not have control of that meeting. It was generally agreed that not just the anniversary committee, but all of staff council, will develop these activities. Ideas will be collected at the next meeting

Chris Jines gave feedback on the strategic plan breakout sessions. The strategic plan was initiated by the board of trustees. The overall consensus is that follow through and what is done with the information gathered is of most importance. Chris offered a reminder that contributions of stories, issues and concerns can be made online.

Meeting adjourned with motion by Charlene Kaufman and seconded by Shannon Hoehn.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia York, Secretary