



Staff Council Meeting
Minutes
April 25, 2013

Members Present: Lesley Attebury, Terri Alvey, Mary Ann Bernard, Bobbie Brown, Miekka Cox, Garry Culver, Stephanie Higgins, Sarah Howard, Kim Jost, Terry Martin, Amanda Mitchell, Betsy Mullins, Theresa Ohning, Michelle Simmons, Jacki Spainhour

Guest Present: Donna Evinger, Marna Hostetler

Members Absent: Jeri Broshears, Gyneth Fehribach, Brandan Garrison, LaVerne Jones, Kim Sullivan, Debbie Whiteside

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from the March 28, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Betsy Mullins moved that the minutes be approved and Miekka Cox seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Employee Relations: Terry Martin is still working on the food for the picnic. Costs have gone up. The first option, in process, is to increase the picnic budget to cover the food costs. Another alternative is to select a different menu. Even the cost of the food from last year is higher this year. The food choice is pasta using rotini noodles. There is a discussion on whether to have one entree or two. The picnic is currently set for May 22nd.

Economic Benefits: Betsy Mullins spoke for the committee. They are wrapping up and deciding on topics for next year. They plan to discuss those benefits that did not get passed this year. The employee discount with Sodexo is currently only available if using the Eagle Access card, but the committee is looking into getting the discount without using the card. They are also looking into the fee for lost card replacement by suggesting at least one free replacement a year. Also under discussion was the voluntary evaluation form, which some supervisors make mandatory. There is discussion about revising the questions.

Nominating: Jacki Spainhour noted that the first invitation for nominations was sent. A second request will be sent Monday, April 29th. Currently seven nominations have been made with 12-13 spots to fill.

Other Business: There is no news on the budget proposal at this time. Mary Ann Bernard talked with President Linda Bennett. Bennett is hopeful that USI will receive the \$10 million requested for operations.

Old Business: It is time again for the Employee Recognition Award. The Staff Council chair will send out the invitation for nominations. Selection is in June while the award is presented in August.

The Staff Council retreat is scheduled for Wednesday, July 24th. The location is currently set for Carter Hall, but Betsy Mullins will see if we can use a location in housing. Terry Martin will work on the food for the retreat. Some food options were suggested but is dependent on where the retreat will take place.

New Business: Marna Hostetler, director of the Rice Library, visited the staff council to familiarize herself with the different USI organizations and to offer her support for future projects.

Discussion/Announcements: The flex schedule was mentioned. It is still in discussion at HR.

There being no further business, Betsy Mullins moved to adjourn and Kim Jost seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:56pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Simmons
Secretary