

Washburn University Staff Council Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2024

Members Present – Eileen Brouddus, Deb Bruner, Gayle Davis, Raelyn Dutra, Matt Flink, Kaylyn Hobelman, Cynthia Holthaus, Teresa Lee, Linda Mathews, Kirsti Mzhickteno, Christina Pirtle, Tisha Prather, JD Reynolds, Carissa Schmidlein, James Thayer, Anne Walbridge

Members Not Present – Kaydee Emperley, Althea Henderson, Luther Lee, Gayla Sarkesian

Guests – Joshua Huston, Molly Pierson, Amber Schmidt, Christy Spena

- I. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Tisha Prather at 3:08 pm.
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Attendance was taken by Zoom chat & for those who joined in-person at Lincoln Room.
- III. Approval of February 13th meeting minutes (Motion)
 - a. Voting
 - i. Motion – Raelyn Dutra
 - ii. Second – Linda Mathews
- IV. Committee Reports:
 - Chair Reports – Tisha Prather
 - No updates. She is setting up another meeting with Dr. Mazachek to review proposal of Bereavement Leave.
 - There will be an update meeting with Dr. Mazachek. Kaydee will learn more about the results from faculty and staff survey – Great Colleges to Work.
 - Board of Regents Meeting Update – Tisha Prather, Eileen Brouddus
 - Several faculty received promotions.
 - Discussion shared about Henderson renovations and displacement of summer camps and faculty offices.
 - Benefits Committee – Eileen Brouddus, Kaydee Emperley, Tisha Prather
 - Meeting scheduled for Employment Benefit Committee on May 6, 2024 @ 3:00 pm.
 - Food Advisory Committee – Gayle Davis
 - Chartwells is having focus groups this week. You can reach out to constituents and share feedback with Gayle Davis for Chartwells.
 - Scorch on the Porch event on April 22 (Earth Day).
 - Parking Ticket Committee – Deb Bruner
 - No updates.
 - Safety Committee – Chris Pirtle
 - No updates.
- V. New Business:
 - a. Questions from Constituents
 - i. Matt Flink shared that there was a discussion in another committee meeting at WU Tech. The current Employee Recognition Ceremony is scheduled during class time on WU Tech campus and it is difficult for staff and instructors to get to campus on time.

- ii. Kaydee Emperley wants to propose a change to the Staff Council meeting to start change at 3:15pm. Matt responded that it isn't a concern for him since there is a Zoom option but he is going to touch base with other constituents on WU Tech campus and report back in May.
- iii. Cynthia Holthaus shared that Dr. Mazachek will be hosting two town halls soon. An email will be sent in the next week to report about the budget, campus projects and building moves, and answer questions.

VI. Old Business:

- a. Employee Recognition Ceremony on Wednesday, April 23, 2024 @ 3:00 pm in Washburn A/B in Memorial Union.
 - i. Kaydee thanked everyone who read through the nominations and volunteered to help with the ceremony.
- b. Questions from Constituents
 - i. No update yet on Bereavement Leave policy yet.

VII. Informational Items:

- a. Next Meeting: May 14, 2024, 3:00 – 4:00 pm via Zoom Video Conference and in Lincoln Room, Memorial Union

VIII. Adjournment (Motion)

- a. Motion – Gayle Davis
- b. Second – Deb Bruner

Minutes submitted by Staff Council Secretary Carissa Schmidlein.