

Staff Council Minutes

June 13, 2007

Members present: Val VanDerSluis (Chair), Angela Valdivia, Wanda Hinton, Lori Spurgeon, Becky Shaffer, Dee Barker, Lori Rognlie, Lynn Bailey, Angela Horn, and Bill Bunten.

Val called the meeting to order at 3:00pm in MO 204.

Reports

From the President:

Wanda Hill and Ken Hackler are in the process of writing the procedures for the five new policies (University Vehicles, Drug & Alcohol Policy, Criminal Background Checks, Cell Phones and Children in the Workplace). President Farley will send a draft to Staff Council for review in September.

The President informed Val that The WU BOR approved the budget with a salary and tuition increase. He stated the 5.5% tuition increase is the second lowest increase of the Universities in Kansas. He will be watching how this effects enrollment. He would like to see a 1% increase in enrollment each year. He stated enrollment for Summer and Fall is going well.

The Stoffer Hall renovation project is on schedule and work continues on the Weight Room.

The President met with the Sigma Phi Epsilon and Phi Delta Theta fraternities and the WU Endowment Association to discuss the renovation of their houses. Funding for this project is to come from fund-raising, no funding from the University will be contributed.

The legislature did adopt a policy that requires technical schools, like KAW Area Technical, to team up with a 2 or 4 year college, or make themselves a stand-alone college. The President would like Kaw Area Technical School to be teamed with Washburn University.

SRWC and spousal memberships were discussed. Dr Farley will follow up on this question. He would like feedback from employees on the new Wellness Program.

Corporate Volunteer:

Lori Rognlie reported Washburn University hosted the Volunteer Awards luncheon today. She was pleased to report it was a great success.

Benefits:

Benefits committee did not meet.

Old Business

Lori Spurgeon gave a quick update on the soap/paper towel dispensers. She was told that every building is scheduled to the new soap dispensers. She will follow up with Shirley on the paper towels. Val reported the SRWC membership issue has been forwarded to the Benefits Committee.

New Business

An employee inquired if the mental health coverage can be increased. Currently the maximum number of sessions is 16. Val has forwarded this issue to the Benefits Committee.

Since the Virginia Tech situation, Universities are asking what can be done to increase safety and awareness. Becky reported there are many things that can be done. Issues of access, maintenance, and cost are all things that have to be considered. Darrel Dibbern is forming a small committee to review further.

An employee inquired about leave time for natural disasters. Several employees were affected by the recent flooding and had to take personal leave to take care of the damages to their homes. Could this be a part of the shared leave program and/or could an employee take sick leave instead of personal leave for the time he/she are out? This will be forwarded to the Benefits Committee.

Announcements

The next meeting will be in September 2007. Val will distribute an e-mail when the date has been confirmed.

Meeting adjourned.