

Staff Council Minutes

November 7, 2001

Present: Joyce Abbott, Mary Allen, Mary Beth Bero, Sally Dyke, Betty Fischer, Caroline Fox, Elaine Gill, Mary Grooms, Mitch Higgs, Donna Lacey, Judy Liesmann, LaJean A. Rinker, Christine Winchester

Agenda

1. Approve minutes from 10/03/01 - Minutes approved with two changes;

Vining changed to Vinning, and an "a" added to the next to the last line in section 5, to read "...hope to have a new form..."

Committee Reports

Employee Recognition

no report

Benefits Committee

continuing to work with Deborah Birney Moore to develop a form for the Shared Leave program.

Change Management

The new software is here and implementation will begin the week of November 26 with Finance. Full implementation is a four-five year plan but LaJean and Mitch strongly recommended that all staff council members attend the AIS update meeting on Thursday, to participate in all training offered, and to try to maintain a positive spin on the change when discussing it with others.

Corporate Volunteer

no report

Recycling

WU now recycling about 50%.

Safety

committee has not had a meeting yet

Homecoming

no report

Longevity Committee

LaJean's impression from her discussion with Dr. Farley is that this is not going to happen. Washburn is not set up for a longevity system, which is a civil service based system. He indicated that he is aware that there is "compression" in the pay scale now as we have cut out the bottom two pay levels - meaning that new incoming employees are making the same as employees that have been here 5-10 years. But this will not be able to be addressed in this economic climate.

Evaluation

committee has not received a response to calls Deborah Moore made to the VPAT. It is believed that the proposed new form is still under review. Administration remains firm about wanting the form to be numerically based, with no objective values. We are free to let our constituents know that there will not be evaluations in November - and probably not until February.

Old Business:

Crosswalk light at 17th & Boswell

LaJean reported that the property is the responsibility of the city, not the university. The city's stance is that they have many more important projects and if the university wants a crosswalk there, it should foot the cost of putting it in. Dr. Farley is reluctant to set a precedent by doing so. After much discussion, it was requested that the committee go back to the city (through John Warren) to request that they replace current signs with the new brighter yellow signs with the warning flags on top.

Two other traffic issues were introduced; one, the crossing at 17th and College is also challenging and should be studied. The second issue was a request to find out if the parking lot in front of Morgan (north side) could be made one-way.

Bylaws Change - a proposed change regarding Section 3:

Transfer or Terminations of Membership was distributed. Mary Grooms moved to accept the change, it was seconded by Sally Dyke, none opposed. "If an alternate was not elected, the Chairperson will appoint a representative from the respective group to fill the vacancy" will be added.

New Business & Announcements

Morgan Hall Restrooms

Two staff council members had been approached to bring forward the issue of the terrible state of the Morgan Hall restrooms. LaJean reported that this is the

third time this issue has been brought up. In spite of repeated and on-going complaints to Bobby Mitchell (custodial supervisor for Morgan Hall) over a long period of time, the situation is not getting any better. The bathrooms are so badly cared for it is feared that it makes a very bad impression on everyone, but especially on prospective students and parents who come into Morgan Hall to visit the Admissions/Registrar's office. It was also mentioned that it was ironic to have the Administrative building restrooms in such bad shape. Council members reported that it seems to be restricted to Morgan, no problems in other buildings on campus. LaJean suggested that council members encourage everyone to detail that concern in the Facilities Use survey that was distributed recently.

Staff Council Survey

to follow-up on the suggestion made last month that we consider surveying the campus to see how the Council is thought of and if we have a "vital role" was discussed briefly. LaJean suggested that we point constituents that question what the council has and can accomplish to the Council's web page. Christine reminded council that some of our constituents do not have access to email/web sites; for instance 28 of the "Hourly F" group. LaJean proposed that we table the discussion and she will add it to February's Agenda and in the meantime all council members make communicating with their group high priority.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. Next meeting, December 5, MO 204.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Christine Winchester