

STAFF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: August 16, 2007
Present: Barb Bassett, Clara Blakely, Vicky Dawson, Annette Holt,
Sandra Johnson, Crystal Pepperdine, Debi Rowden, Jennifer Swank
Absent: Dan Getty, Doritta McDaniel

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by C. Pepperdine at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the previous meeting will be completed by S. Johnson and presented at the next meeting. Previous minutes have been posted on the new web site by D. Rowden.

AGENDA ITEMS

- **Budget Report** – C. Pepperdine distributed the Report of Available Funds (as of June 30, 2007) along with a Trend Report, and reported a slight deficit in the General Fund Balance for FY2007. She also distributed the Proposed Budget for FY2008. The group agreed that General Fund expenses should be kept within the fiscal year, and emphasized that we are committed to the birthday club four times each year, the Holiday Breakfast, and two staff recognition awards given at the Staff Breakfast. Discussion of the chair stipend was tabled until the next meeting. It was agreed that the financial handouts should be posted in the Staff Council collaboration site on Sharepoint.
- **Staff Council Archives Project** – tabled.
- **Parking issues** – J. Swank reported that Bill Webb has delayed the opening parking while doing a usage survey at the start of Fall semester. D. Rowden will attend the next meeting of the Parking Committee to address the Friday open parking in the UPAV ramp.
- **ECDC Discounts** – A. Holt reported that the Kids Care program (care for an sick child) is centered in Dearborn and not available in Genesee County, and distributed some basic information and a chart that showed that the funding for this program comes from a benefits recharge (2.1% of 2.3%). The group agreed it would be worth pursuing funding from Ann Arbor since President Coleman's has an initiative for child care, and the ECDC subcommittee will draft a letter to request the funding amount available. A. Holt also reported that Ann Arbor has three staff members who assist in finding child care resources. On our campus, 4C's is contracted (low income) and the Women's Educational Center (WEC) informally assists students, faculty, and staff.

The group discussed ways to provide a child care scholarship from the Designated and Gift accounts. Suggestions included working with the administration to create a fund, more fundraisers, hold a silent auction (V. Dawson). C. Pepperdine cautioned that staff council changes might change this initiative in the future and mentioned working with Development. A survey of staff assembly would indicate interest and support. The issue was tabled until more information is available.

- **Saginaw Room** – J. Swank reported that she will meet next week with Mary Jo Finney, the new Director of the TCLT.
- **Athletics Committee** – J. Swank reported that the committee has not met.

- **Volunteer Service Credit** – D. Rowden reported that the form is still under development at <http://www.umflint.edu/staffcouncil/volunteer/>.
- **Staff Council Website** - D. Rowden presented the new web site under development in the new template, and will make all suggested edits and improvements before the next meeting. S. Johnson will add the dates for Staff Council events to the campus Calendar. A quarterly email message was suggested to promote events and the Staff Council news blog. S. Johnson will design a quarter sheet with meeting dates, the birthday club, and other event dates to be a handout at events.

Council members should send their subcommittees and other interests to D. Rowden to be posted on the Members page. B. Bassett will provide a roster of past Staff Councils.

- **Brochures** – V. Dawson distributed copies of the new Staff Council brochure which will be made available at staff events.
- **Charter Revisions** – S. Johnson reported there are no revisions at this time.
- **United Way** – C. Pepperdine reported that Staff Council will work with the campaign this year, and advised that four staff could attend a team building activity at the GISD Base Camp for \$75 each. The group decided not to participate.
- **Topics for Meeting with Jack Kay** – tabled for next meeting.
- **Free Recreation Center Access for Staff** – tabled for next meeting.
- **Other Matters** – Brief discussions were held on the items below. Council will revisit these matters as time permits during the September meeting.
 - **Meeting Length** - C. Pepperdine asked if Staff Council meetings should be scheduled for one hour or 1.5 hours. The group decided that they should normally be planned for one hour, but it can be adjusted according to number of topics to be covered.
 - **Baskets for Veterans** - A. Holt inquired about the possibility of providing baskets to staff who become a deployed soldier.

AJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Submitted by,

Debi Rowden
Staff Council Secretary