

The University of Mississippi
Minutes of the Meeting January 9, 2008

Staff Council
Lyceum, Room 200

Present: Dotty Baker, Julie Baker, Pam Barefield, Debbie Binkley, Debbie Bishop, Rachel Bost, Brenda Brannan, Dennis Bullard, Johnette Carwyle, Tiffany Edwards, Chris Harwell, Marla Holcomb, Sam Johnson, Nina Jones, Cheryl Martin, Priscilla Melton, Patti Mooney, Susan Morris, Randall Pinion, Jay Plunk, Deborah Purnell, Patricia Stewart, Diane Tredway, Melanie Wadkins, Benita Whitehorn,

Excused: James Akey, Kevin Cozart, Shellie Harrison, Marla Holcomb, Gwen Hutchins, Ron Kitchens, Perry Myrick, Kim Russell

Unexcused: Johnny Logan, Timothy Woodard

Call to Order: President Debbie Binkley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Debbie reported to the council that Nina will be looking over the roster to prepare for upcoming staff council elections. Debbie Binkley reiterated the procedure regarding absenteeism and replacement of members. Melanie Wadkins asked if a list of runner ups from the council election was used when replacing members. The list is maintained and when a member is replaced the next runner up in the EEO category is selected if available.

Approval of December Minutes: Approved by general consensus

Approval of January Treasurer's Report: Approved by general consensus. Benita Whitehorn questioned the cost of printing for the Holiday Reception. It was explained that this was for two separate print jobs – one for the invitation and then one for the letter.

Committee Reports:

Dotty Baker – Staff Appreciation Committee—The agenda for Staff Appreciation will remain similar to last year's event. Everyone on the council is encouraged to participate and will be provided the time of the next planning meeting. Julie Baker asked for assistance in obtaining door prizes for the different events.

Diane Tredway and Johnette Carwyle – Holiday Reception – A large turnout of approximately 216 staff members participated in this event. The chancellor and vice chancellors donated money to purchase hams and turkeys to be given away at this reception. Kroger and Walmart both donated a gift card. There were a total of 16 hams/turkeys and 2 gift cards given away.

Johnette Carwyle – Staff Discounts – The committee is working to contact different businesses in Oxford to ask that they provide a discount to staff members. This is an ongoing project.

Nina Jones – Staff Council Elections –Letters will be sent out to all staff members on January 16, to solicit membership. Debbie Binkley provided a list of all members with an

expiring term in 2008. These members are: James Akey, Dotty Baker, Debbie Bishop, Rachel Bost, Brenda Brannan, Tiffany Edwards, Marla Holcomb, Ron Kitchens, Susan Morris, Benita Whitehorn, Timothy Woodard, Cheryl Martin. A member can serve two consecutive terms and then must sit out for one year before running in the election again.

Deborah Purnell – Public Relations/New Hire Brunch—The Public Relations department has agreed to release one story per month for staff council and display this story on their web page. The council discussed a topic of interest for the first story and decided upon the Recycling project. Deborah reported that the staff council web page is in need of some updates and will be working on this along with Kevin Cozart. Deborah also reported from the New Hire Brunch Committee that the brunch will only be held the week of Staff Appreciation instead of twice yearly.

Benita Whitehorn – Recycling – The recycling project is going well. The committee hopes to see this project continue to grow.

Announcements/Concerns

Paula Park – Debbie Binkley provided an update on the medical status of Paula's daughter. There will be extensive rehabilitation required as she continues to heal. Staff members were encouraged to donate leave time for Paula as she has exhausted her time. The form to donate this time can be found on the Human Resources web site. For more information on assisting Paula, contact Terry Kitchens at the UPD office.

Debbie Binkley asked if there was interest from the committee to establish a fund to provide something to staff council members when they have deaths in their families. Interest was shown by the council and Rachel Bost was designated as the person to maintain this fund.

Julie Baker presented a suggestion to all committee chairs to please give as much advance notice possible when putting together committee meetings. It is hard to be available for a meeting with one day notice.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

The next meeting will be February 6, 2008 in the Indoor Practice Facility.

/s/ Debbie Binkley, President

/s/ Shellie Harrison, President-Elect

/s/ Priscilla Melton, Secretary

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http://www.olemiss.edu/orgs/staff_council/