

Staff Council Minutes

January 10, 2007

Members present: Lynn Bailey, Dee Barker, Wanda Hinton, Jennifer Hill, Becky Shaffer, Val VanDerSluis (Chair), Kelli Clevenger (Vice Chair), Jessie Smith (Secretary), Vicki Baer, Joyce Hutchins, Pam Gordon, Lori Rognlie, Angela Valdivia, and Bill Bunten.

Val VanDerSluis called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in MO 204. President Farley was to be the special guest, but he was unavailable for the meeting.

Reports

From the President:

Val VanDerSluis reported that she did meet with Dr. Farley. The Budget and Finance Committee is meeting Thursday, 1/11/07 to discuss expenditures, salaries, tuition levels, sales tax and what is expected from the Governor's recommendation. The thought is that sales taxes will remain flat for the next fiscal year and there was some concern over how the Goodyear strike in November and December will affect sales tax. Regarding tuition, President Farley feels that a tuition increase of 3-4% is necessary in order to stay competitive with salaries. The salary pool for increases will be determined soon. The location of the new weight room is being discussed as well. There are 3 choices for the weight room to either be a free standing building (which would cost between \$4-5 million; it could replace the pool (which would cost \$2.2 million), or renovate Whiting (which would cost \$3.2 million). The Whiting option would be easier to justify due to the increase in square footage. The plan would be to raise the basketball court and put the weight room on the lower level with classrooms in the horseshoe space where seating is currently located. This would increase the amount of space by 7,000 square feet, with also the possibility of adding a 3rd floor for classrooms. If this occurs, we would gain between 17,000-24,000 square feet in Whiting. The Greek Village is still being discussed. Sororities didn't want to fundraise for this and are happy with their current facilities, so they will not be a part of the Greek Village. The cost per fraternity to be a part of the Greek Village is \$2 million. Each fraternity will need to fundraise \$1 million and the University would help with the remaining \$1 million. If a fraternity wants to be a part of the Greek Village, this means that the property would belong to Washburn University, which means that WU would be responsible for collecting rent, cleaning, etc. So far, only one fraternity feels they can raise the \$1 million (Sigma Phi Epsilon). The Alpha Delta fraternity will stay where they are at. The Kappa Sigma fraternity can't raise the dollars needed and actually can't operate the house they are currently in, so they are looking into moving into a non-residential fraternity. Washburn University will get this property back within the next 6 months. The Phi Delta Theta fraternity members want to renovate their existing house and believe they can do it for \$1 million.

Corporate Volunteer:

Lori Rognlie reported that they had met earlier in the day. Operation Clean Sweep will be done again this year with the luncheon being held on Dec. 6, 2007.

Benefits:

The committee won't meet until January 24, 2007.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Announcements

Drumline will be held on January 11. This is Val VanDerSluis's last meeting until May due to maternity leave. Kelly Clevinger will take over the chair position in her absence. The Mabee Library will be bringing in Dean candidates and notices will be going out campus wide.

The next meeting will be February 14, 2007 at 3pm in Morgan 204.

Meeting adjourned.