

Staff Council Minutes

November 1, 2000

Mary Beth Bero called the Nov. 1 Staff Council Meeting to order at 3 p.m. The minutes of the October meeting were approved to be posted to the Web.

Rich Robbins reported that last year the Benefits Committee spent a great deal of time working on the Shared Sick Leave policy and it has been finalized and sent to President Farley. The committee is now working on a tiered Blue Cross/Blue Shield insurance plan. Allen Easley will be sending out a survey regarding this plan, asking employees to give their preferences, etc. The committee is also working on a definition of "domestic partner."

The Wellness committee will also be sending out a survey regarding what employees seek in an overall wellness program given the approval of a new Student Fitness Center near Petro. This committee will attempt to identify programs already in place, determine what new programs are desired, etc. Human Resources looked at the last 5 years of health claims to determine needs on the campus. The survey will be out and expected back before the end of the semester. Rich also reported that it will be necessary to hire a director for this new wellness program as it cannot be run with volunteer help.

Since Sue Peek was absent, there was no report on the Oct. 17 AAUP meeting regarding parking on campus. Janet Lassiter, Corporate Volunteer Council representative, reported that \$731 was collected from 74 people for the Blankets for Warmth in Topeka program.

The Membership Committee looked over the lists of employees and determined there were just a few people who need to be reassigned. Connie DiPasquale asked to be notified about anyone who needs to be moved and said the rearrangement will be fairly easy.

Recycling seems to be going well.

The Safety Committee will be doing their walk around campus tomorrow night. Any concerns should be sent to Connie or the head of facilities services. LaJean Rinker read a copy of letter from John Warren to the City of Topeka regarding the crosswalks on 17th street. Regarding direct deposit slips via campus mail, Heidi Crosland reported that Karla from payroll had planned to attend today's meeting but her supervisor asked to be officially notified regarding this matter before allowing anyone to address this issue. It was agreed to invite Mary Lou Herring and Karla Whiteside to attend our next meeting to discuss this issue.

Mary Beth will check Dr. Farley's calendar to see if he could attend a reception for new members in December. Mary Beth also handed out a list of "issues" that have been forwarded to our group for action. She suggested we choose 2 or 3 from each group that we wish to "tackle" during the upcoming year. John Pinegar, WU Alumnus, had asked to address our group regarding extension of the \$.0025 sales tax. It was decided that our group did not wish to become involved in political issues so we refused his request.

Cindy Daugherty from Informational Services requested that we find someone from Staff Council who would be willing to work with her committee on the Employee Recognition Program. Rich Robbins agreed to sit on this committee.

It was agreed that we would encourage Staff Council members to attend all meetings or send an alternate if they could not attend. Each Staff Council should actively seek an alternate if they do not have one. Mary Beth announced that our Dec. 6 meeting would be held in the Thomas Room.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
LaJean Rinker, Secretary