

Staff Council Meeting Minutes Thursday, July 18, 2019

Attendees

Matt Blair, Katie Byers, Holly Chenoweth, Dan O'Connor, Brandi Darr, Joyce Eger, Sherry Kohuth, Mary Anne Koleny, Valerie Kubenko, Gayle Pamerleau, Lauren Perri, Lisa Reffner, Karen Ricco, Brian Root, Troy Ross, Noelia Ruiz, Amy Sawdey, Karen Tate, Al Thiel, Beth Tiedemann, Shannon Ulishney, Ashley Watson

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:04 p.m. by Matt Blair, President.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was presented with \$901.58 as of 6/30/19. The balance of our fund is getting low so we are welcoming any and all fundraising ideas to increase revenue so that we are able to keep holding events for staff.

New Business

- Staff Changes –
 - Kathy Fennell, Cindy Crosby, and Lenny Jones retired. Ray Butler was hired in the maintenance department.
- Lunch Bunch – Participation in this program is low (9 participants in June and July). Discussed the idea of offering lunch bunches every other month or once a semester, however, a few people mentioned that summer vacations might be causing the lower participation so we will continue with monthly lunch bunches for next few months to see how it goes.
- United Way Soup and Salad – raised \$115 on Friday, July 12th and there is one more SOAR (Friday, July 26th) for staff, faculty, etc. to attend. On the 12th Chartwells did run out of soup around 12:30 so if you are able to attend try to get there early (if possible)!
 - A few of the offices around campus are currently not able to participate since they are busy until 1 with SOAR so Karen will check with Connie to see if it would be an option to extend the lunch time to 1:30 for future years.
- Staff Issues and Opportunities – No new reports however, HR will follow-up with the committee in September regarding the last reported issue which pertained to staff evaluations.
 - Should anyone have an issue or opportunity that they would like the committee to discuss they can submit their question or concern [here](#).
- Upcoming Elections – will be happening for Vice President and Treasurer as the terms for each position end September 1st. More information on nominations and the voting procedure/timeline will be sent out in the next few weeks.
- Kickball Game – for staff members will be on Wednesday, August 31st after work at the East Practice Soccer Field. Please arrive by 5:15 p.m.
 - We will be randomly assigning teams at 5:15 p.m. and the game will begin at 5:30 p.m.
 - **President Gregerson will be our celebrity pitcher!**
 - Amy will send out an email a few days prior to get an idea of who will be attending. The gymnasium will be our rain location.
- Staff Picnic – will be held on Thursday, August 1st from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Alumni Pavilion (Hempfield Room will be the rain location).
 - Staff Council will have a 50/50 raffle to raise money for our fund so bring your change!
 - Chartwells is asking for a headcount so Amy will send out an email to get an idea of the number of attendees the week prior to the event.

- Farmer's Market – is a new initiative that Staff Council will begin on Monday, July 29th. Anyone who grows their own produce (veggies, fruit, or herbs) and would like to participate can bring their goods to 120 Millstein Library throughout the week. People bringing goods can swap their items with items left by others. Those who do not grow produce but would like to participate can provide a donation to staff council for any amount in exchange for an item. We will be holding this farmer's market until the end of September or until supplies last. This is on a first come first serve basis however Amy will post updates as new items are added to the Pitt-Greensburg Staff Council Facebook page.
- Staff Appreciation Ideas – This issue was brought up by Lisa Hope who had contacted the Chancellor after seeing emails regarding the large picnic/ event hosted by the University of Pittsburgh for staff and faculty appreciation that the regional campuses don't feel the love. The Chancellor wrote back and asked for ideas in how the regional campuses could be included in the event. Largely discussed during this meeting was the idea that it is hard to give ideas when we aren't clear on how Pitt is willing to contribute. Ideas for busing people to Oakland, asking for donations/giveaways, allowing us to have an afternoon long event here at UPG were all discussed.
- Yoga – was discussed as an idea to offer to staff/faculty during their lunch hour throughout the summer. Mary Anne will contact the Staff Council representative that planned the Yoga on the Lawn event at the University of Pittsburgh to get more details to figure out if/how we can make that happen here at UPG.
- Other – the idea was brought up about rotating location of the Staff Council meetings across different spaces around campus. There are limited spaces across campus that could hold everyone, but it is something the Council will discuss.
- Fundraising initiatives – there was a suggestion to have walking tacos on campus once a semester where they are either delivered to people who would like to pre-order a taco, or having the tacos in one location (that rotates each time). Staff could pay for their walking taco and the proceeds would be donated to the staff council. Another idea of having a bonfire with s'mores on campus for staff or students to raise money was mentioned. Making staff aware that they can write on their donation form for the internal campaign to have their donation go to the Staff Council fund was announced and for those staff who represent the buildings to share this information during campaign time. Lastly, it was suggested to have 50/50 raffles at each of the staff council meetings and different events to help raise funds and to increase participation. In reminder emails regarding the meeting time and place Amy will also include a reminder to bring cash for those who would like to participate.

Next Meeting

- Thursday, September 12 at 1:00 PM in Hempfield Room

Meetings this Year (subject to change)

- Thursday, November 14 at 1:00 PM in Hempfield Room

Adjournment

Al motioned to adjourn and Val seconded.

Recorded by A. Sawdey