

* Problems with the teleconference equipment resulted in the meeting starting late and prevented some Staff Council members from participating. The connection was problematic throughout the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Pips Veazey called the meeting to order at approximately 9:05AM. The meeting was delayed due to technical difficulties.

Roll Call

Present:

Pips Veazey
Juella Sparks
Maria Russell
Robert Mackey
Evelyn Pensgard
Sara Battiest
MaryAlice Short
Debbie Gonzalez
Kala Hansen
Carolyn Simmons
Gary Newman
Jennifer Elhard
Mary Sue Dates
Claudia Koch
Robin Weinant
Jed Lowell
John Clendenin

Present (cont.):

Walker Wheeler
Brad Krick
Travis Brinzow
Gary Bender

Excused:

Deb Jeppsen
Debbie Coxon
Heather Leavengood
Jennifer Youngberg
Richard Machida

Absent:

Nichole Kloepfer
Ryan Keele
Kim Eames
Britton Anderson

Quorum was met.

Rural representatives who were present for today's face-to-face meeting and Staff Appreciation Day were welcomed. This included Robert Mackey, Evelyn Pensgard, and Jennifer Elhard.

Approval of Agenda for Staff Council Meeting #228

The agenda was amended to move the approval of minutes for the March (#226), and April (#227) meetings to the June meeting agenda.

The elections were moved to the end of 'Unfinished Business.'

The agenda was approved as amended.

2. STATUS OF PENDING ACTIONS (No pending actions)

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (No public comment participants)

4. OFFICER REPORTS

A. Pips Veazey, President

Proposed Code of Conduct:

Pips thanked everyone for their work on the proposed code of conduct online survey. We received an overwhelming response. The information that we collected was forwarded to Staff Alliance from there it was forwarded to President Gamble. This survey marked a significant step forward in helping us identify ways to get information out to staff and ways to collect staff input.

At the beginning of the year, President Gamble challenged us to find ways to improve communication with staff. This survey was very successful in this regard. Staff Council's effectiveness in handling this issue was highlighted by that fact that, on several occasions, Faculty Senate did not address the proposed code of conduct, since staff had this issue so well covered. Staff Council was very successful in taking the lead on this matter by collecting information and ensuring that staff feedback reached President Gamble. President Gamble has since replied to our feedback and the proposed code of conduct is no longer on the table for now. Something related, such as a mission, or a set of core values, may be looked at later.

Staff Alliance Meeting

Last week, Staff Alliance spoke directly with President Gamble and openly discussed s

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6. GOVERNANCE REPORTS

A. Jennifer Reynolds, President- Faculty Senate(No report)

B. Robert Kinnard – ASUAF

The hope is that the Staff Alliance will see the recommendations for the first time at their August Presidents' retreat, from there, your representatives from Staff Alliance would get the word back to you. At that same time, your representatives to SHCC should also be getting the information to you.

The suggestion was made for members of the Staff Health Care Committee to begin determining how they plan to get the word out to people and how they plan to collect feedback.

Please forward any suggestions that you have to HOC or to SHCC to Juella so that they can be assessed.

Representation on the taskforce includes three members of the administration with the other eight positions being split between faculty and staff.

WIN for Alaska:

JHCC recommended ending the WIN for Alaska program. President Gamble was very impressed with the survey results Juella presented to him regarding this program. He noted that the survey results indicated obvious support for the program that needs to be taken into consideration. Juella is not aware of the official position on WIN; she is waiting to hear Donald Smith's decision regarding this program. If Donald Smith does not veto it, WIN for Alaska ends July 1. If he does veto it, it will go forward. At the time, Juella requested that WIN be kept in place for another year to be considered as some of the suggestions that come out of the Health Care Taskforce. Staff Alliance passed a motion in support of keeping WIN for Alaska, recognizing that wellness is the key piece, not WIN for Alaska; that wellness should be considered in the Health Care Taskforce research. So WIN may go for another year, but come the findings of this, wellness could be a significantly different part of the benefit.

D. Employee Tui

Maria Russell accepted a nomination for vice president contingent upon obtaining supervisor's approval.

Mary Sue dates accepted a nomination for both president and vice president.

As a point of clarification, the responsibilities of the president and vice president were read from the constitution and bylaws.

It was asked what would be required to be a rural staff member as an officer would be funds to have the person at every meeting, or would this require a lot of phone meetings. The chancellor provides funding to offset your salary if you are elected president or vice president. Depending upon the situation you are in it may be possible to use the money as travel funding as opposed to using it to offset your salary. A motion and second were made to close nominations. The motion passed. A question was immediately raised regarding closing the nominations under the circumstances of people lacking approval. With the technical difficulties, it is also possible that someone attending the meeting by teleconference was interested in running, but could not attend due to technical difficulties.

Discussion of the benefits of postponing closing nominations until June ensued. Some concern was expressed regarding representative availability and quorum if the election were to be postponed. Some supported the idea of postponing the nomination until June, as long as representatives were committed to attending. If someone cannot attend the June meeting, they need to contact their alternates to vote their place. We do not have the mechanism for absentee voting in our bylaws.

A motion was made and seconded to open nominations until June, 2012. This is one week prior to the June 19 meeting which provides time to vet candidates prior to the meeting. Nominations will not be accepted after June 12, 2012 and no nominations will be accepted on the floor during the June 19, 2012 meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Year End Committee Report Announcement

B. Communications Committee –John Clendenin, Jr.

- The committee did not meet in May. They plan to meet prior to the June Staff Council meeting.

*Committee Chairs: Please forward your reports to ~~staff~~staff-council@alaska.edu

14. 10:50-11:00 ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

15. ADJOURN

President Pips Veazey adjourned ~~the~~meeting at 11:26AM.