



Staff Council Meeting October 20, 2010

Present: John Lane, Elliot Ballard, Carman Allen, Michelle Henninghaus, Debra Shouldice, Ross Heinsohn, Jermaine Roy, Tahisha Hilaire, Crystal Guillory, TC Wilson, Belinda Hernandez, Lois Green, Heather Davis and Gwen Carter.

Absent: Brenetta Brooks, Maria Estrada, Anne Cole, Edna Alvarenga (alt.), Paulette Purdy (alt.), Dwayne Loville, Liza Alonzo, Michelle Falcon, LaTasha Richard, Andrea Guillory, Becky Van Meter and Chandra Slaughter.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 2:13.
- II. The motion to approve the minutes was moved by Elliot Ballard and seconded by Debra Shouldice.
- III. We haven't spent anything since the last meeting so there is \$1,500 in our Main Cost Center, \$4,497 in the Edge Award Account and \$1,058.72 in the two fund-raising accounts. There are a couple of outstanding expenditures that haven't cleared yet totaling roughly \$900-1,000. We need to come up with a workable fund-raising project to raise money for Staff Awards next year and other events.
- IV. Old Business
 - A) Elliot Ballard passed out the sign-up sheets for the standing committees. He hopes that everyone that was on a committee last year will continue to serve on the same committee as before. Then the committees should elect a chair and co-chair. He then thanked everyone that served last year.
 - B) The motion for one year term(s) for the Staff Council President and Vice President was posted to the webpage for review last month. Following the ten day comment period the majority voted and passed the amendment to bylaws.
 - C) The Staff Council booth for the Fall Family Festival was cancelled. Anyone that wants to volunteer to help with Fall Family Festival is encouraged to do so. Sign-up sheets are available.
- V. New Business

- A) Paulette Purdy is collecting Halloween candy for the House of Tiny Treasures. People who wish to donate can deliver it to Paulette; Heather Davis, Belinda Hernandez and Michelle Henninghaus will also be collecting candy for the drive or it can be delivered to the Student Activities.
- B) Debra Shouldice moved and Belinda Hernandez seconded the Edge Award nomination. Staff Council is encouraged to spread the word about Edge Awards. The question of whether the money should be paid in advance or reimbursed after the seminar event. After some discussion it was decided that the Edge Awards should be reimbursed to the department after the event. Staff Affairs will need to clarify the application. In the criteria, in the second to last bullet where it tells when an application should be submitted; Elliot suggested that the phrase "first Tuesday" be struck.
- C) Everybody likes the idea of having speakers; preferably topics that benefit the staff. Topics suggested for future speakers include: financial awareness, benefits, health care benefits, ethics, and parking/construction. It was suggested that we start the speaker series in January.
- D) Elliot gave the USSEC Report; the Clear Lake president is the present Chair this year and UHD is the Chair Elect of USSEC now. Meetings are held once a quarter and the next meeting is January 12th in Sugarland. They are currently revising the constitution.
- E) The E-Appraisal is coming up; be sure and document what you do!

VI. Issues/Concerns

- A) One suggestion of how to address apathy in Staff Council is to include a list of members that are absent at each meeting. One suggestion was invite a co-worker to Staff Council. Another suggestion was to provide a forum for staff to make suggestions regarding the budget cuts. Many of the staff might have great ideas of how we can save money but they just don't know who they should talk to in order to get their idea heard.
- B) Daycare at UH-D is not going to happen until we get another new building. If/when a daycare is implemented, the students will be priority and it will probably be for the older children.
- C) Winter term is going to happen.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15.