Eastern Kentucky University

Staff Council

Meeting for February 11, 2014

Crabbe Library Conference Room 201

Members present: Banks, Leah; Cole, Tammy; Cotton, Ann; Evans, Jennifer; Fulkerson, Steven; King, Stephanie; McKnight, Jennifer; Simpson, Debbie; Sparks, Tosha; Spease, Julie; Templin, Kalie;

Members Absent: McHone, Dixie

Guest: Craig Turner

Call to Order – Chair Banks called the meeting to order on February 11, 2014 at 10:00am in room 201 of the Crabbe Library.

Approval of Minutes

Members were asked to review the minutes and e-mail any changes or corrections to Julie Spease by the end of the business day Friday, February 14. Julie will then send the minutes via e-mail to all council members for approval by the following Friday, February 21.

Guest speaker Craig Turner, Chair of The Board of Regents, addressed the council in regards to what has been going on at EKU in the last several months and what to expect in the coming months. Below are the highlights:

- Mr. Turner and The Board of Regents share a common goal and that is to make EKU a better place.
- “Our best resource is people and we must provide them with the tools to be successful”
- EKU has to become self-sufficient as state funding is declining
- The first ever Board of Regents retreat is scheduled for February 25th in Frankfort where board members will meet with legislators.
- The state has issued a 2.5% budget cut for higher education but due to the drastic measures EKU took last fiscal year this cut will not have a heavy impact on us.
- The university is looking to hire a third party consultant for program review
- EKU will become more aesthetically pleasing with construction of new buildings, renovation of current buildings, and demolition of others. There will also be more green space as we have hired a consultant to review where and how we can increase our green space.

Treasurer Report

Balance of $8,299.59
Staff Regent Report
Mr. Fulkerson announced that the Step-in-Grade funds are in place and folks should start to see their pay increases in the coming pay periods.

Next Board of Regents meeting is on April 14, 2014

Chair Report
Chair Banks reported that the Administrative Council met on Thursday February 6, 2014 and the highlights are listed below:

- Everyone should have received and reviewed the email sent by President Benson regarding the capital improvements to campus. These plans are not set in stone, but his approach to being more open and transparent to the campus community.

- Everyone should now be receiving official emails from the President’s Office regarding inclement weather closures and delays. The President’s Office received word that the notifications were not being sent or received in time via other media outlets, so they will now email all changes to the campus faculty, staff, and students.

- Mona Isaacs, IT, reported that the Link phone system will be coming to all areas soon. Also, the desktop replacements will begin as this is the third year.

- Marc Whitt, Public Relations, reported that the conversation between our students and Mayor Barnes regarding what they would like to see in Downtown Richmond was very successful. This was the first time our students have ever been given the opportunity to interact with a Mayor.

- Barry Poynter asked that everyone check out the signage in front of Keene Johnson Building. This signage will soon be appearing all around campus.

- The President’s Leadership in Action Academy (PLAA) is now accepting nominations. You can find out all about the academy, requirements, and the nomination form on the website.

Committee Report
A. Communication committee – No Report
B. Issues and Benefits Committee- Ann Cotton will serve as committee Chair and Jennifer Mcknight will serve as Secretary.
C. Staff Recognition & Professional Development – No report
D. Elections & Credentials – Stephanie King will serve as committee Chair and Kalie Templin will serve as Secretary. This committee will be meeting on the fourth Thursday of every month at 2:00p.m. A Special Election will be held for the following areas, with the term ending December 31, 2016 Athletics, Development, EKU Foundation, Arlington, and University Relations. Nomination forms are now being accepted. Please send the completed form to Staff Council Chair, Leah Banks, Crabbe Library 103. Forms must be received by 4:30 p.m. on March 5, 2014. The online election will be held March 18, 2014.

E. University Committee Reports
a. Parking Advisory Committee – No Report
b. Benefits Committee – No Report
c. Strategic Planning Steering Committee- No Report
d. University Professional Development Committee- Ann Cotton reported that from June 2012-July 2013 the PD committee had supported $35,237.41 in staff professional development. For the current fiscal year June 2013-December 2013 this committee has supported $27,145.95 to 96 employees.

**Old Business**
Ann Cotton announced that Environmental Health & Safety is ready to begin the partnership with Staff Council by advertising monthly safety themes. Below are the options for poster placement and payment that was discussed:

- $500 and EH&S will place posters strategically around campus
- $200-$300 and each Council member will be responsible for hanging posters in their respective area (2 posters per council member)

Chair Banks asked that we defer action on this item of business until the March council meeting.

**New Business**
Tosha Sparks was nominated and elected by acclamation to fill the Secretary/ Treasurer position on Staff Council.

**Adjournment**
Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am

Submitted by,
Tosha Sparks
Secretary/Treasurer