Eastern Kentucky University

Staff Council

Meeting for March 18, 2014

Stratton 150

Members present: Banks, Leah; Cole, Tammy; Cotton, Ann; Evans, Jennifer; Fulkerson, Steven; King, Stephanie; McHone, Dixie; Sparks, Tosha; Spease, Julie; Strauel, Jennifer; Templin, Kalie;

Members Absent: McKnight, Jennifer; Simpson, Debbie

Guest: Bailey Cox-SGA Representative

Call to Order – Chair Banks called the meeting to order on March 18, 2014 at 10:00am in room 150 of the Stratton Building.

Approval of Minutes
Minutes of the February 11, 2014 meeting were approved via e-mail.

Guest speaker Bailey Cox, Senator of Student Senate addressed the following items:

- The Governor has proposed an increase for KERS which would cost the University 1.3 million additional dollars. The Student Senate wanted to know how many folks this would affect before employees would need to take a stand regarding protecting their investment.
- There are several new fees being presented to the Student Senate for their approval:
  1. Campus Enhancement non-mandatory fee- for such things as new student center, and small projects across campus- approximately $220
  2. Athletic Fee- to enable the University to move up in conferences- approximately $100
  3. Tech Fee- approximately $100
- Eastern fan Friday- Students, Faculty & Staff can wear maroon/EKU apparel and show valid ID to receive business discounts throughout the community. This began in November and will continue. Bailey will get Leah a list of businesses that participate in this community effort so that we can post the savings on the Staff Council website.

Treasurer Report

Balance of $8,299.59

Staff Regent Report

The Board of Regents had a retreat on February 24th in Frankfort and the follow items were discussed:

- The Governor’s budget a proposed 2.5% cut for higher education but would fully fund all of our capital projects (science building, parking garage, athletic facility upgrades, etc.) The House passed the Governor’s budget unchanged. However, the Senate proposed a deal that would allow higher education to keep the 2.5% but only fund capital projects at 75% and the University
would have to make up the difference. Also, there would be a moratorium of 2 years on prevailing wage which will add 20% to building construction. The date for the final budget will be April 15th.

- The plans for renovation of Powell/ New Student Center were unveiled.
- A hot topic in the retreat was Eastern moving up in conferences from championship football to bowl football. We have made it known that EKU would like to be asked to join the conference which is a requirement. It is estimated that it would cost the University approximately 10 million dollars to move up in conferences, but it would also bring in additional revenue from fans that would travel with their teams, etc.

**Chair Report**

No Report

**Committee Report**

A. Communication committee – the website was reviewed by all Staff Council Members. This committee has worked on updating information, photos, links, etc. In order to better uniform our website this committee has asked that all members have a new picture made. To make this process a little easier Chair Banks is going to work with the University photographer to set up a block of time for those photos. It was announced that this committee would also develop a Facebook account for Staff Council and possibly a Twitter account in hopes to keep the university staff better informed. *Note- All e-mails should go through this committee before being sent out to constituents.

B. Issues and Benefits Committee- Ann Cotton was elected Chair and Tammy Cole was elected Secretary/Treasurer. They will meet at a later time to discuss Benefits for the next coming year.

C. Staff Recognition & Professional Development – Julie Spease was elected Chair and Jennifer McKnight was elected secretary. This committee will be working closely with the Day of Service planning group in coming weeks in preparation for the University Day of Service.

D. Elections & Credentials –The online election that was scheduled for March 18, 2014 has been rescheduled for March 20th.

E. University Committee Reports
   a. Parking Advisory Committee – No Report
   b. Benefits Committee – No Report
   c. Strategic Planning Steering Committee- Please RSVP and encourage your constituents to attend the Staff Strategic Planning focus group on Thursday, March 27 in the Jagger’s Room, Powell Building.
   d. University Professional Development Committee- No Report

**Old Business**

A. Jennifer Strauel reported that the Staff IPEP process is moving along and they will have a recommendation to the President’s Council on April 22, 2014. The cost to fully support all the equity issues would be 1.6 million dollars. The amount allotted for both staff and faculty was 1 million dollars so all issues cannot be resolved at this time. However, anyone receiving an adjustment it will be retroactive to January 1.

B. Environmental Health & Safety Campaign- Ann Cotton reported that Mr. Makinen has agreed to pay for all the posters for this initiative. It was discussed though if this would be just as effective
to do EKU Today announcements, emails to our constituents and putting the information on Staff Council’s website.

C. Day of Service Planning

New Business

A. Chair Banks is going to get some prices from a variety of vendors on shirts for Staff Council members. She will bring the shirts to the council meeting so that members can decide on color, size, and brand. The date for this is pending the start date of the new VP of Branding. After shirts have been received Chair Banks will have the photographer come for a group photo to update the website.

Adjournment
Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am

Submitted by,
Tosha Sparks
Secretary/Treasurer