

Operating Staff Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday, January 7, 2009

Members in Attendance: Ann Boylan, Matty Leighton (Chair), Patrice MacNevin, Laurrie Anne Malizia, Janice Pierson, Sandra Reynolds, Toni Searles

Members Not in Attendance: Slava Bruder (Vice Chair), Brian Tobin, Lisa Wilder

Guests: Janice Aviza, Potential Council Member; Lon Sattler, SPCC

Agenda Items

Welcome/Approval of Minutes – Matty Leighton

Matty did not distribute the edited December minutes. She will resend the edited version, which were approved by acclamation. The November minutes will also be approved at that time.

Ideas from Benefits Fair Contest – Matty Leighton

The council considered the remainder of the ideas generated by the benefits fair contest.

1. Find additional ways to cut down on paper communications, such as paper copies of The New Hampshire, nominations for awards, announcements from search committees and Dick Cannon, etc. Also limit the number of flyers and postcards that departments send out, and replace the beautiful but expensive recognition program brochure with a durable kiosk that moves around campus or single bound copy of the document of reach department.

The council thought this was an excellent idea and should be pursued as one of the task group initiatives in the coming year.

2. Have a bus that runs from Portsmouth that arrives in time for employees to get to work for a 7:00 AM start time.

The council will forward this request to Tracy Gagnon, the council's transportation committee representative.

3. Drop the GoLoco and E-Rides services and replace them by creating an automated, on-line service that people must complete in order to renew their parking permit. This service could require respondents to indicate interest in carpooling and gather information that would make it easier for employees to match up for this purpose.

This idea will also be forwarded to Tracy Gagnon.

4. Visit the offices at 10 West Edge (Facilities) so employees there can learn about what you do and discuss their concerns.

The representative for District 3, Laurrie Anne Malizia, will implement this suggestion.

5. Have OS Council members walk through the Whittemore Center in the mornings from 7:00 to 8:00.

It was unclear whether this was a request for OS Council reps to be available for constituent communication or a request to make the track in the Whit available to employees who are not rec center members. If it's the latter, the indoor track in the Field House has hours when employees may walk there free of charge.

6. In the summer, coordinate a farmer's market so gardeners can bring in their produce to sell or swap.
The council did not feel this is their role; constituents, however, would be free to organize this.

7. Part-time OS who are currently employed at less than 75% time should be allowed to convert to 76% time if they wish, and departments should be given the money to do this.

This issue is addressed by the new policy moving through the SPPC which addresses the long-term use of part-time staff and requires their conversion to status, benefited positions after a certain period of time.

8. Provide a retirement instrument that is FDIC insured.

The council will pursue this as one of its task action items in 2009.

To recap, the ideas from the benefits fair that the council will pursue are:

- Representing non-status employees – This might perhaps be done by having non-status employees on the council as ex-officio members. The council will need to check the bylaws and make sure this is not prohibited.
- Creating a park-n-ride in Lee and/or at other strategic places, such as in Rochester, and busing employees to the Durham campus from there.
- Having a meal event designed to facilitate interaction with constituents – This may take place as part of the AOP conference. Also, the council will investigate having a presence at Spring Fling and the fall picnic and will send representatives to locations (such as 10 West Edge) to engage constituents.
- Creating more employee discounts with merchants and keeping the current list of discounts updated.
- Reducing the amount of paper sent to employees.
- Adding an insured retirement instrument (such as an IRA CD).

Election of New Representative

Janice Aviza indicated that she would like to join the council. Matty nominated her, Laurie Anne seconded the motion, and Janice was elected unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 PM.

The next OSC meeting will take place from 1:00 – 2:30 PM on Wednesday, February 11th in MUB Room 233. OS Council meetings are open to all operating staff.

OS Council web site: <http://www.unh.edu/os-council/>

PAT Council web site: <http://www.unh.edu/pat-council/>

SPPC web site: <http://www.usnh.edu/hr/sppc.html>