

STAFF COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 6, 2008

The WKU Staff Council met on August 6, 2008 at MMTH Journalism Library. Those present were Cassandra Bailey, Tammi Beach, Diane Carver, Larry (Tex) Currington, April Gaskey, James Kennedy, Cheryl Lewis-Smith, Sherry Merklings, Jennifer Ragan, Angela Robertson, Darrel Saalwaechter, Tamela Smith, Retha Spinks, Tammy Spinks, and Mike Young. Not present was Shannon Ward.

James Kennedy reported on the Staff Discount Committee. He has been receiving several emails concerning discounts in Bowling Green for WKU Staff. He has not yet updated the staff council web site but will do so shortly. He will validate the discount before adding to the web site. He also stated that he will have the pictures and committees updated on the web site soon as well. James has updated the web site since our meeting with all the information that was stated above.

Cheryl Lewis-Smith, Chairperson of the Medical Leave Bank Review Committee, said they met to review policy modification recommendations. The committee focused on two specific items, donating hours to specific individuals and the current employee qualification criteria. The committee researched several other Higher Ed, Government, State, public and private industry policies and guidelines. After thorough review it appeared that there were too many problematic issues that could possibly prompt or create negative concern/impact to the overall intent or purpose of the policy. It was noted that the Medical Leave Bank policy was revised a year ago. During the committee review it was discovered that our current Medical Leave Bank is in a deficit hour state and that more donation participation is needed. Based on the overall committee findings Staff Council decided to not pursue further action on this item.

Increasing mileage cost was discussed last month and after that meeting it was announced that mileage would be increased to .49 a mile.

Angela stated that she sent the Staff Council recommendation for Ombudsman to Deborah Wilkins along with all other emails she received concerning this issue.

July 2008 minutes had a misprint, it stated that Deborah Wilkins will attend the meetings around 11:00 p.m., but it should read around 11:00 a.m. She has been invited to the Staff Council meetings, since she is our liaison with the Administrative Council. She does not have a vote, but we felt it would allow more communication between the two entities.

Cheryl Lewis-Smith brought up the issue that the air conditioning is not being turned on in buildings on campus until 7:00 a.m. BSA are starting around 2:00 a.m. in the summer and the heat is extreme. Tamela Smith stated she would talk with John Osborne and Angela Robertson stated she would talk with Dale Dyer. We will invite Dale Dyer or Bob Ware to a future meeting to discuss this issue.

Mike Young, a member of the Campus Master Planning Committee, stated that renovation is about to begin at several buildings on campus. He also stated they are looking into a new building for Alumni and Development Office.

Diane Carver, member of the Parking and Transportation Committee, stated that President Ransdell is adjusting the number of members on this committee. They will not be meeting until it is decided.

The Fall Break Brunch was discussed. The Theme this year is the Homecoming Theme "Vote Big Red for President". We will try to have the brunch at DUC Fresh Food Company again. The decorating committee consists of Retha Spinks, Tammi Beach, Jennifer Ragan and Tammy Spinks. We will collect tickets to keep count of the number of meals, and we will also have a paper for each person with the person's name and department for door prizes. All members are to collect door prizes.

Deborah Wilkins attended the meeting and we discussed the BSA air conditioning issue, the Parking and Transportation Committee, and the Ombudsman position.

The next meeting will be on September 10, 2008 at MMTH.