

Staff Senate Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2021
9am – 10am (Pintler)

Attendees:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Haldane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kinsley Rafish	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathy Stevens
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marcia Lubick	<input type="checkbox"/> Sean Ryan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeremiah Strand
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbie Luft	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenna Snow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Vanatta
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nathan McQuinn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trisha Southergill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cassandra Welsh
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarie Nicholls		

Approval of 9/14/2021 meeting minutes: Jenna motioned to approve. Casey provided the second. All voted in favor of approval.

Immediate Business:

Retreat Review: Kinsley brought up the August retreat and the group discussed the direction of the group for the remainder of Fall term and Spring term. We are half way through the semester and it is a good time for a temperature check on staff senate.

Debbie shared that we are moving along nicely however it would be good to reduce our event ideas so that we can focus on an event. Mike agreed and since career fair is over for the fall, he will have more time.

Kinsley thanked everyone that has taken time to volunteer.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Kinsley shared that we had several Ask the Senate on the topic of why there was a Staff Senate Meet and Greet off campus and not on campus. Kinsley suggested we use our meeting time for an on campus Meet and Greet. We all have this on our calendars and could meet everyone's schedules. What would we want to provide (coffee or donuts)? Kathy volunteered to make cookies. We will need to reach out to Sodexo for their process on food and beverage service. (Point Person: Casey). An on campus meet and greet will be scheduled for 11/9. Jeremiah will send this for the campus weekly update on 10/6. More details to be determined.

Kathy asked about if we would volunteer for holiday gift wrapping. At this point, this has not been determined.

Sarie shared there is a "Hoop Fest" in development for Butte. Hoop Fest planning is in its infancy and could be something Staff Senate can be involved for community support.

New Business:

Budget Report:

Kinsley shared that we raised \$150 from the Meet and Greet at Slainte (portion of the evening's sales).

Marcia has the forms for the foundation account for Kinsley.

Communications/Marketing:

We will start posting the on campus meet and greet on the Facebook page. The Facebook page will be added to the weekly campus updates and should be distributed via the campus ap. Jeremiah will work with Casey on this.

Events:

November Meet and Greet: see above

December: ideas include Christmas Stroll on campus or other outside event. We need to find out the date of the Christmas Stroll and then determine what we want to do. TBD.

Need to start planning for the corn hole tournament in January.

Jenna brought up it would be a good idea to have a staff appreciation after the winter break.

The group decided to focus on the November meet and greet event and see what more info comes for the Christmas Stroll

Mental Health:

Kinsley thanked Nathan and Cassandra for their leadership with the walking at lunch. The walking date may need to be changed because of the Wellness Committee's Pilates and Yoga classes starting up on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The group decided we will keep the walking at lunch going thru October.

On Boarding:

Casey has a draft proposal for staff senate on boarding efforts that was emailed out prior to the meeting. The database information is being updated for Jeremiah and Jenna for new employees. We need to determine what the effective date of new employees to be included in the lunch mentor program. It was proposed that we start with new employees in November. Marcia will follow up with the logistics of charging lunch via the dining hall.

Talking points and other suggestions: do not be a mentor of someone in your department; have a campus map; create a contact sheet for quick questions (or find the existing one). Debbie volunteered to give a campus tour to the group as a training.

Senate Governance:

Not discussed

Ask the Senate:

A new ask the senate was sent on the day of the meet and greet wanting it advertised more and on campus. We are holding a second one in November on campus.

Scholarship:

Thank you cards for the Day One giving were passed around. We raised \$265.

January Corn Hole Tournament Scholarship fundraiser: we will start planning next meeting.

Report Outs:

Leadership Team Updates:

- Kinsley shared that staff need to report to Oredigger RX if they are unwell. Debbie used the Oredigger RX and it went well.
- Starting 10/1 Sodexo must be the first option for on campus food/catering.
- The E-Sports Room in the HPER houses the e-sports team (room 138 HPER). The camps is replacing all exterior lights.
- MTech raised more funds than U of Montana on Day One.
- Right now there is a \$1,000 discount 1st year of tuition to students who complete a 2 year degree at 3 specific Montana Community colleges and choose to move on to the 4 year degree (complete the AAS and then move to a BS degree.) There are other stipulations, but this is the high level information.
- December 11 will be fall commencement.
- A new faculty/staff reception on 9/30.
- Faculty staff awards ceremony 10/5.
- Family Weekend and Athletics hall of Fame 10/8-10
- Advancing Tech Forum 10/14
- Make a Difference Day 10/23
- SEE KINSLEY PAPER

LEAD: a 2 day leadership and diversity training – October 26-28. Lead by Reverend Jamie Washington.

MTech is no longer affiliated with Purse Strings.

Faculty Senate Updates: none

ASMT Updates: no updates

MUSSA Updates: no updates. Debbie or Kathy will back up Kinsley if she cannot attend.

Great Place to Work Update: no updates.

Staff Recognition:

Pat on the Back: no update

Awards Update: winners have been selected. Chancellor does want plaques to be presented to the winners and staff senate needs to pay for these. Marica requested that staff senate purchase 2 plaques. The group agreed to these costs.

Action Items:

The group photo has been cancelled.

Next Meeting:

October 12, 9am