

University of North Texas  
Staff Council Meeting Minutes  
November 9, 2010  
Discover Park, Room B140

Members Present: Elvira Aguilar, Jaime Blanton, Jim Byford, Ryan Ferguson, Tina Garza, Jennifer Lee, Stephanie McCane, Rachel McMullen, Scott Milligan, George Niebling, Erasmo "Max" Rodriguez, Joanie Smith, Hillary Talatzko, Jackie Thames, Valerie Thornton, Uyen Tran, Mary Ann Venner

Members Absent: Brandon Alarcon, Cheylon Brown, Chris Foster, Paul Goebel, Nathan Hansard, Michael Hensarling, Xaviera Lofton, Lisa Martin, Rose Preston, Raymond Rowell, Amy Tannehill, Amie Trahan, Margaret Vestal

Guests: Scott Windham, Melina Stucky (In House), Joe Richmond (Parking and Transportation), Belinda Newman (Ombuds Office), Sheri Lara (Facilities)

I. Call to Order

George Niebling called the meeting to order.

II. Parking and Transportation Update- Joe Richmond

The parking meter program is a success. Individuals or departments can purchase an automated meter card to be used on campus and you will only be charged for actual time used. It'll also help people avoid getting tickets at meters. The cards can be purchased at the Parking Office.

There are some special events coming to the Coliseum next week. Men's Basketball plays Texas Tech on Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> and George W. Bush is speaking on Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Fouts Field parking will be affected and an official announcement will be coming out soon. To help accommodate the crowds, the parking garage will be free for that afternoon and evening.

They are looking at changing the visitor parking policy. More information will be available later.

The DCTA is voting on November 18<sup>th</sup> on operating days and hours for the Denton station. The goal is for service to begin in June 2011.

Faculty/staff express shuttle use has stabilized with approximately 20 boardings per day. The express shuttle will run through the spring semester but its future beyond that has not been determined.

III. Ombuds Office- Belinda Newman

Belinda Newman came to speak about the University Ombuds Office and the services offered for staff members. She brought a brochure, a list of policies and data on visitor trend. She stated the central theme is that people want to be treated fairly. Dr. Newman also stressed that confidentiality is an important component of her office. The only exceptions are if the visitor asks her to share, if there is an imminent risk of serious harm or within the limits of the law (for example, a court order).

IV. Santa's Helpers Toy Drive- Scott Windham

The Toy Drive will kick off the week of November 29<sup>th</sup> with the boxes going out that Monday. There will be approximately 50 boxes distributed around campus. The cost to Staff Council is lower thanks to a corporate sponsorship and support from Dr. Rawlins. All toys must be collected by December 17<sup>th</sup>. It's very important that we participate. All toys collected stay local and Denton County charities depend on our contributions. We'll need help distributing the boxes, picking up the boxes and sorting/counting the toys.

V. UNT SMART- Sheri Lara

UNT is embarking on a three year campus wide energy savings project. Our performance contract with Schneider Electric allows the campus to make energy and water savings upgrades in an effort to reduce both its carbon footprint and operation costs. The project will include a 30 month construction project with the campus done in phases to reduce the impact on traffic and parking. Consumption is expected to decrease along with a sizeable reduction in emissions (compared to removing 41,387 cars from the road or planting 56,287 acres of trees). The project is a 42 million dollar investment, self funded with guaranteed energy savings of at least \$3 million per year and at least \$67 million total savings over the course of the 20 year contract. Implementation began this September with all work expected to finish February 2013. More information can be found on UNT's Facebook page, In House, Twitter (@untnews) and the project's website: <http://www.smartenergy.unt.edu>.

VI. Executive Committee Membership

The Council voted to defer the selection of EEO Executive Committee representatives until the structure of Staff Council is better defined through the By Laws. There will be an electronic vote and a vote at the December meeting. The goal is to have the EC membership finalized by the January Staff Council meeting.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Nominations and Elections- The committee worked with Human Resources on Staff Appreciation Week. Contact Joanie Smith with comments and/or concerns.
- b. By-Laws- Valerie Thornton is meeting with Human Resources on Friday regarding the EEO categories. The committee will meet next week.
- c. Communications- They are working on the Toy Drive and will also work on communicating information on the SMART project to staff.
- d. Staff Development- Homecoming went well with over 200 people served at the Council's Mean Green Village tent. They also raised \$70 for the Toy Drive. The committee is looking for ideas on improvements for next year.
- e. Compensation and Benefits- No updates. Position reviews are due by November 12<sup>th</sup>.

VIII. Adjournment

The next meeting will be held at 3pm on Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> in the Golden Eagle Suite.