Minot State University
Staff Senate Minutes
Tuesday, September 20, 2011
9:00 a.m. – Jones Room

Members Present:  Vicki Troftgruben, Anton Huether, Connie Teets, Nathan Anderson, Linda Benson, Melissa Cantone, Sarah Carr, Sherri Giessinger, Donna Harvey, Korie Huettl, Karen Humphreys, Julie Keller, Bill Klimpel, Wes Matthews, Cheryl Merck, Nancy Mickelson, Mindy Rudnick, Rebecca Ruzicka, Lynn Redden, Darla Weigel

Absent:  Tricia Houmann, Brenda Munson, Scott Peterson, Sarah Walker, Tom Seymour

Call To Order:  President Vicki Troftgruben called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roger Kluck:  Reported that the Wellness Center, the Campus Heights project, and the 100 beds in the Beaver Lodge were in place. Roger also reported about the parking situation on campus, and about the geothermal wells.

President Fuller:  Spoke about homecoming, the census report on our enrollment, the housing situation on campus and throughout Minot, the seating on the football field, and the soft freezes on expenses.

Wes:  Introduced his new assistant, Donna Klein, and spoke about what is new in the HR Department.

Secretary/Treasurer Reports:  Minutes from the August meeting will come with the September minutes. The Kick-Off Fund has 216.40 left, the tent was paid for and in the General Fund there is 548.85.

Committee Reports:  I don’t expect anyone to be ready for the meeting but we would like to get the Election Committee and Bylaws Committee active and meeting.

Old Business:  MSU Fall Kick Off Celebration committee updates.

Advertising Committee:  Anton reported that once the decisions were made the advertising was easy.

Entertainment Committee:  Karen Humphreys reported for Entertainment Committee; she thought the entertainment went very well. I think if we do this in the future, we need to think about how people leave as they left early before or during the DJ was playing.

Suggestions that were made:
  1)  Run it from 4:30-7:30 or 8:00 and having the food start a little earlier and run a little later.
  2)  Advertise the time for the food more.
3) Rotate the entertainment at half hour intervals rather than one all at one time.
4) Use the POWER students again.

Sarah Walker had a receipt for $9.00 for ice, Julie Keller made a motion to reimburse Sarah Walker for this and Mindy Rudnick seconded the motion.

Activities: Karen Humphrey’s covered everything. Suggestions were made that we do a competition between the different colleges/departments such as ice cream or watermelon eating contests.

It was brought up that we had an increased food budget this year and we don’t know if we will have that next year. The food ran $5002.00 this year and normally it is not even close to that.

MSU Homecoming: We were supposed to have a meeting last week and we really need people to walk. We have 5 people to decorate and 5 people to walk. The walkers show up downtown at 10:00 as we start walking at 10:30. The decorating of the trailer is going to be at Connie’s house because motor pool is full of furniture for the new places that are going up. We will be starting at 4:30 or 5:00 or whenever you get there. We can’t get the trailer until after 4:00 on Friday. The parade will be smaller this year because we only have about 39 entries and last year we had like 60.

Tax Exemption Committee: Lynn informed everyone that they met yesterday and they want to present the bill at the November meeting. If we are successful our goal is to get a tax rebate of up to $2500.00 on their purchase and there are guidelines for that and it is a one-time deal. One thing that Tennessee found is that the longevity of the bill is not there. So, our goal is to get a long stance on that and how they did it in Tennessee is that the total amount for the family, is that, say our tax is 7% and 2% is our city. So, our goal is to present it at state that it would be the total 7% on the outside, but they would actually provide us with a 9% to give back 2% to our city. But for all of those that are flood victims they would get 7%. We are being overzealous and we are trying to get the most that we can. We are going to try to get something and something is better than nothing. Tennessee gave it a one-year time and that was definitely not enough time limit and we are trying to go for a 2 ½ years.

New Business: Christmas Fundraiser for the MSU Family Flood Victims complete and dispersed by Thanksgiving. Do we want to do something for Christmas, some kind of fundraiser, and have the money that we raise go into the MSU Flood Family Fund but have those particular funds dispersed by Black Friday. Connie made a motion that we consider doing a fundraiser over Christmas for the flood victims, seconded by Bill. Some ideas were brought forward: chocolate festival.

Discussion:
Discussion on the MSU Family Flood Victims fund and regarding how it is dispersed and who gets the money and how can we control when the money would be dispersed. Suggestions about doing a service for the victims rather than fundraising was brought up and discussed in length.

Vicki: We have a motion on the table to a fund drive of some sort and if it passes than we will make a sub-committee for that. The motion is; ‘To form a fund raiser for flood victims, that was a financial fund raiser’. Motion failed.

Linda made a motion that staff senate does a service project of some type for the MSU Flood Families. Darla seconded. Discussion, there was none. Motion passed. Sarah Carr volunteered to chair and a number of people volunteered to be on the committee.

Connie: At the faculty senate meeting I asked them if they would be interested in doing a float with us next year and maybe during the centennial year, do it as a joint effort, we would get more people and more effort. They voted and it passed, and it does not mean they will participate, but maybe. I would like to present a motion to do a joint effort float as staff senate and faculty senate for the next year’s homecoming parade. Anton seconded. Discussion, there was none. Motion passed.

Wes mentioned the meeting with Patti and Connie. This meeting happened because it was brought to the attention of the election committee by Vicki that at NDCPD there are some faculty that are not instructors who are not being represented in staff or faculty senates. So on Friday at 9:00 Patti Fedji, Wes Matthews, and Connie Teets are going to meet with Brent Askvig to discuss with him what he would like us to do since he is in charge. There are two faculty people who are being represented but we have 15 others who are not.

Motion to adjourn was made by Darla, seconded by Karen. Meeting adjourned.