

MINUTES
University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture
StaffLINKS Committee Meeting
February 17, 2009

Attendance:

Chair Steve McMurry (Regulatory Services)

Co-Chair Chuck Corby (Ag Econ)

Bernadette Amsden (Plant Pathology)

Katie Beeles (Animal & Food Science)

Judi Burgess (KTRDC)

Sara Carter (Plant & Soil Science)

Shari Dutton (Horticulture & Landscape Architecture)

Judy Hart (Management Operations)

Matt Hash (Livestock Diagnostic Center)

Mara McClellan-Williams (Biosystems & Ag Engineering)

Debbie Mollett (Veterinary Sciences)

Dave Stalion (Ag Communications)

Absent:

Jan Childers (HES)

Joe Collins (Entomology)

Kym Pope (County Extension Programs)

Leslie Queary (Forestry), Dave Stalion (Ag Communications),

Minutes:

Chair Steve McMurry called the meeting to order at 11:48 PM on Tuesday, February 17, 2009. There was a quorum so the meeting was officially called to order.

First order of business was approval of previous StaffLINKS Minutes from November 18, 2008. The motion to approve was made by Chuck Corby and seconded by Sara Carter.

The members of StaffLINKS had a discussion regarding the website. Dave Stalion reported that he was waiting on a decision from the University regarding the implementation of Drupal. (Drupal is a free and open source modular framework and Content Management System (CMS) written in the programming language PHP.) It is used as a "back end" system for many different types of Web sites, ranging from small personal blogs to large corporate and political sites. Dave reported that the University is considering changing to Drupal campus wide and that he would keep the committee updated.

Steve McMurry had planned to have Staff Senate Representation Bob Holley attend the StaffLINKS meeting but Bob was unable to attend do to another engagement. He sent an email to Steve, which Steve read to the committee. Bob encouraged the committee to ask their fellow employees to donate their pennies to the UK Pennies for the Pediatric Oncology Unit. There should be a container in each department, if their department does not have a container in their department let me know and I will supply them with one. The drive goes until March 2, 2009. The Staff Senate is also working on the 2009 Staff Appreciation Day. Bob wanted to get the word out to the departments have staff that do not have computers remind them that the entire campus will go smoke free in November. Bob wanted to remind all staff members that they are always welcome at the monthly meetings at 1:00 PM on the second Thursday of each month.

Two members mentioned that an official date for the College of Ag & HES Ag Roundup and Staff Appreciation Day had not been established but it was rumored to be in happening in October instead of September for this year. The committee discussed with the later date the possibility of unfavorable weather.

Shari Dutton agreed to continue Share Fair and maybe this year would need a tent or two. It was suggested by Chuck Colby that an early announcement be sent out this year for more promotion and participants.

The candidates for a speaker for Staff Appreciation day will be needed at the next meeting, the committee debated if a comedian was more popular than a motivational speaker. Steve said that we would need to put together a list of three potential candidates for the next staff links meeting on May 19, 2009.

There was a suggestion from a member that we add a blog to the staff links website, then a message board and a "comments button" were suggested. After much discussion it was decided that the committee would like a comment button added to the website with a link to the chair and co chairs email. Chuck was concerned that the email address from the recipient wouldn't be on the message so Dave stallion will check into the matter.

The meeting dismissed at 12:48 pm.

Next meeting will be held May 19, 2009 at 11:30 in the Weldon Suite.

Respectfully submitted by Judi Burgess, secretary.