

University Staff Advisory Council
Minutes of the Meeting
June 13, 1995
8:30 a.m.
Rand Hall Dining Room

Representatives, alternates, guests present: Francene Gilmer, Bill Corbin, Mark Petty, Deborah Blount, Ruth Ann Brown, Pam Sevy, Mary Holloran, Mary Tom Bass, Oscar Cole, Jr., Cindy Miller, Gladys Holt, Ruby Fisher, Karen Cunningham, Brent Tener, Brenda McKee, Kathy McTiernan, Donna Smith, Susan Davis, Zora Oatley, Janet Thomason, Jo Bilyeu, Robert Halliburton, Elizabeth Cermak, Nan Bilotto, Sue King, Lewis Saettel, Lynda Wyatt, Susan Slay, David Greenlee, Wendy Dever, Lera Douglas, Virginia Featherston, Lyle Lankford, Tracy Crouch, Richard Smogur, Jeannie Rice, Jennifer Sadler, Lisa Dorton, Ronda Blackman, Judy Thompson, Teresa Cowdrey, Patsy Myatt, Lisa Cullum, Patricia Bleecker, Chris Gremino, Mary Lucus, Burt Augst, Dale Corter, Barry Kendall, Patrick Bembry, Terrie Spetalnick, Jane Cleveland, Tim Dempsey, Janet Sisco, Brenna Chapman, Sharon Buchanan, Sue Ann Scott. Regrets: Amy Jarvis, Brent Tenpenny, Jodi Smith, Leslie Boone, Kathy Horton, Karen Dolan, Michelle Bell.

The June meeting of the University Staff Advisory Council was called to order by President Gilmer at 8:30 a.m. in the Rand Hall Dining Room. She opened the meeting with an inspirational reading. The minutes of the May 9, 1995, meeting were approved with one correction: The date for the trolley route described on page 2 should have been May 19th. The motion for approval was made by Lewis Saettel and seconded by Zora Oatley. The motion passed unanimously.

President Gilmer recognized the new representatives and alternates who will take office in July and asked each to stand for introductions. This year's election selected new reps and alternates from the odd numbered groups. Even numbered groups will select new representatives and alternates next year.

Guest Speakers:

President Gilmer introduced:

Bob Babbitt, Executive Director of the Metro Transit Authority (MTA)

Martha Ann James, MTA Rideshare Coordinator

Eric Beyer, Director of Rideshare Services for the Regional Transit Authority (RT A)

Babbitt stated that the MfA had experimented with a trolley route for students to Hillsboro Village and trolley runs on Saturday nights to 2nd Avenue. They have also looked at a Friday lunchtime route to local restaurants. MT A will continue to look at ways to bring higher density transit services to the campus.

Beyer talked about the Rideshare concept. He explained that the success of a Rideshare program is often linked to the cost per mile for commuting and the level of parking problems at a person's jobsite. He said that about 8 to 12% of VU employees ride the bus to work. However, as gasoline prices rise, more employees will be interested in either mass transit or Rideshare programs. A recent rush-hour interstate count showed that 30% of the persons were riding in vehicles containing 2 or more persons.

James handed out a questionnaire to the group asking for information concerning commuting patterns. Some

6,000 additional copies will be sent out in the parking pennit packets by VU Traffic and Parking. The results of the survey will be computer analyzed by the **RT A**. Information will be matched in an effort to increase use of the Rideshare program and assess the feasibility of additional mass transit systems and/or routes.

James stated that a frequently expressed concern by those involved in a Rideshare program is the lack of transportation required to leave cam pus in case of an emergency. The local Rideshare program includes a guaranteed ride component If a person participates in Rideshare at least 15 times a month, she/he receives 4 vouchers good for a rental car or a taxi ride. Participant must live more than 20 miles from work to qualify for the rental car.

Q&A:

Questions were asked about the commuter train service that has been run on a trial basis from areas east of Nashville to Riverfront Park. The guests stated that a detailed study of commuter rail service is being conducted.

Questions were also asked about the downtown parking situation in light of recent renewal projects and the construction of the new arena. Babbitt believes that the problem is not as severe as most people believe since some 65,000 people work downtown during the day. He considers the main issue to be providing access to existing parking facilities during events.

Jane Cleveland was asked to comment on efforts by VU Traffic and Parking to improve commuting. She said that VU T&P will coordinate efforts with MTA and RTA. A question was asked about reduced VU parking permit fees for persons who Rideshare. Cleveland said that issue is also under consideration.

Committee Reports:

Flea Market --the Staff Council's annual Flea Market will be held on August 26. Each Staff Council group is asked to provide two workers to assist in preparation for the Flea Market, sales, or breakdown. Elaine Goleski is the coordinator for the Flea Market

Traffic and Parking --Brent Tener, member of the VU Traffic and Parking Committee, reported that numerous concerns were raised over the proposed structure of Zone 2. As a result, changes have been made in the zone. Another change from the original proposal is that the parking permit fee will rise \$6.00 rather than \$12.00 for 1995/96. The new fee for a regular permit will be \$90.00 per year.

Executive --Bill Corbin, Vice President, reported on the Executive Committee meeting held on June 8. Issues discussed at the meeting included: staffing levels for the Employee Assistance Program, a proposal to move graduation to Saturday, the appointment of a new secretary for the Staff Council, a procedure for the selection of a charity or charities to receive funds from the Flea market, and agenda items for the June Staff Council meeting. Corbin was very pleased to introduce the Council's new secretary, Virginia Featherston. He reported that an announcement requesting proposals for funding from the Flea Market will be placed in the Re~ister. Proposals are due August 1.

New Business:

Tener, in his role as Vice President Elect, announced that the flrst meeting of the Executive Committee will be

held from 11 :30 until 1:00 in the General Library Conference Room on Thursday, July 20. Persons wishing to serve on the Executive Committee should indicate that preference on the form to be distributed by Corbin. '

Vice President Corbin thanked all those who assisted in the election process, especially the members of the Election committee. He then informed the new representatives and alternates of their duties. He reminded the representatives that they must either attend meetings or send their regrets to the secretary. He then handed out an information form and asked that all continuing and

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new representatives and alternates complete and return it. He also requested that ex officio members and university administrators complete a copy of the form.

Acknowledgments:

President Gilmer expressed her appreciation to those who had served with her in the roles of Secretary and Vice President and to all those who had served on the various committees of the Council. She then presented Vice President/President Elect Corbin with the President's gavel.

Vice President Corbin commented on the fact that President Gilmer had opened each meeting of the Staff Council with an inspirational reading. He then did a humorous reading in Gilmer's honor. He then presented Gilmer with a relief water color of several university buildings and expressed the appreciation of the Council for her work during the year.

Adjournment and next meeting:

President Gilmer adjourned the meeting of the University Staff Advisory Council to meet next in the Rand Hall Dining Room on August 8, 1995, at 8:30 a.m.



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