

Minutes from the July 16, 2009 General Meeting

1. Jennifer Burley welcomed all in attendance. See list below. She gave an update about Melody Ferguson, whom recently had her baby boy and that she will be back in October.
2. Bruce Raymond, General Manager of The Rock, joined our meeting to introduce himself and to discuss the **“New UWT Staff Discount Program”**. It is called the ‘backstage pass’ and it’s currently designed for staff @ UWT. Staff that did not attend can either see Jennifer Burley for a new pass (limited supply on hand) or go to the The Rock to inquire about how to get the discounted card that can also earn you points towards a free pizza. The discount on purchases is 15% and includes the all you can eat lunch buffet. Mr. Raymond, who just started there recently, discussed how their company is very supportive of education and the community through numerous financial and food donations to various local organizations.
3. Michelle Hartman introduced two new staff members @ UWT. Unfortunately, neither were able to attend the meeting. We welcome:
 - o Barbara Davis – Admissions Specialist in Enrollment Services started in May 2009.
 - o Thomas Keehn – Director of Development in Advancement started in July 2009.
4. Jennifer Burley introduced this quarter's “Unsung Hero” – Tim Kapler, Media Services. The board presented Tim with an award along with balloons, a certificate of appreciation, and a gift card to a local coffee company this morning during his weekly staff meeting. Tim’s nominator noted his dedication to his job, his responsiveness to media help, dependability, and his quiet good humor. Tim was unable to attend but he did send an email thanking the board for the award.
5. Jennifer Burley reminded everyone about the new “PAW” cards and showed it to all as well as encouraged folks to pick up some if they didn’t have them and to be sure to hand them out when necessary.
6. Bob Hardie gave an update on the upcoming SA BBQ/Fundraiser (July 30th – 12:00 pm-2:00pm). Bob brought along some of the prizes we are offering for the drawings and encouraged those who haven’t purchased their advanced tickets to please see Donna after the meeting. He passed around a volunteer list to see if anyone was interested in assisting. Jennifer encouraged people to purchase their tickets ASAP as funds were definitely needed.
7. Jennifer Burley brought up different ideas for the SA Summer Service Project and also sought ideas from those in attendance. A few suggestions were made from the board and attendees – those that will be considered included:

- School Supply drive
- Animal Rescue/Assistance to local kennels or place who take in animals in hopes of adopting. The thought was to bring those folks along with different animals here in hope of having them adopted as well as raise funds or food to donate for local animal shelters.
- Collection for local food banks

Another suggestion was sent via email, but, cannot be considered at this time due to issues that could arise, was to address current condition of the campus grounds due to landscaping funding cutbacks. Milt Tremblay from Facilities was there to address this issue and discussed several reasons why this is not possible. The reasons were mainly due to Union issues as well as the possibility of someone getting hurt and the liability it imposes. Milt has been in contact with The Office of Risk Management about seeking volunteers but because of the reasons above, the suggestion at this time will not be able to be considered. Milt also discussed that the custodial contract is being renegotiated right now which would include more restroom patrol and possibly seek the help of staff with recycling and waste. More information will be sent to staff via email from Milt. Milt also reminded folks to be more cautious when sending out emails to the uwline as messages can be sensitive to others.

8. Michael Johnson, Coordinator of New Student Programs, came to discuss the New Student Orientation (dates of event on web). He gave an update but he also made a call for Volunteers. Anyone interested should contact him regarding days and times. Renee Smith Nyberg mentioned that staff should be mindful to be visible that day and ready to step in to help. Things like wearing purple or your name tag with the “ask me” sticker on it would really help. Michael said he would look into this suggestion. Someone asked if first-week events were planned and Michael confirmed that the ‘Welcome Week’ will return. He will be sending more information about all of this out via email shortly.
9. Renee Smith Nyberg came to announce the “Records Management Training” coming soon to UWT (August 4th). A flyer was distributed to all. Renee also added that the issue regarding the Release Time and Tuition Exemption policy is being discussed with the Management Team and that is why she doesn’t have answers for us right now, but that she wanted us to know it’s in the works. She hopes to have a more concrete update in time for the next Staff Association meeting in October.
10. Other items....No one had anything to add or ask.

The Staff Association Board Members

Jennifer Burley, Co-Chair
 Melody Ferguson, Co-Chair
 Donna Plummer, Treasurer
 Bob Hardie, Elections Committee Chair
 Michele Brittany, Mentoring Committee Chair
 Michelle Hartman, Secretary/Interim Co-Chair

Attended: Board members: Donna Plummer, Bob Hardie, Michelle Hartman & Jennifer Burley. Staff: Martha Wilson, Kim Davenport, Marcie Pierson, Linda Kachinsky, Beth Jeffrey, Julia Smith, Valerie Mediate, Alison Navarrete, Megan Bentley, Renee Smith Nyberg, Michael Johnson, Milt Tremblay, Bo Bae, Beth Luce.