



Cornell University Employee Assembly

MINUTES **Employee Assembly Meeting** **January 07, 2015** **12:15 -1:30pm** **401 Physical Science Building**

“Being an active Voice for Cornell Staff”

I. Call to Order

G. Mezey called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Present: B. Cristelli, L. Croll Howell, M. de Roos, B. Esty, T. Grove, S. Jenks, E. Lee, G. Mezey, J. Rogan, B. Schaffner, M. Stefanski Seymour, P. Thompson

Absent: J. Ballerstein, N. Bell, D. Brooks, C. Ferguson, H. Hall, L. Morris, BJ Siasoco

Also Present: G. Giambattista, A. O'Donnell

II. Call for Late Additions to the Agenda

There were two late additions to the agenda. G. Mezey added a discussion on elections and G. Giambattista requested to discuss TCAT route 82. Both additions were added to the new business portion of the agenda.

III. Approval of Minutes

B. Schaffner moved to approve the minutes from December 17, 2015. The motion was seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Business of the Day

None

V. Report from the Chair

A. Staff Departures

G. Mezey welcomed the members and gave a brief overview of the spring term. Some of the speakers and topics lined up include a discussion with the Provost Search committee, discussion with M. Opperman, Slope Day Concerns, survey solidification, green office initiatives, and further investigation into the structure and representation of the EA.

G. Mezey then gave the floor to L. Croll Howell to discuss some staff departures. L. Croll Howell said that Chris Halliday, from HR, and Dan Roth, from the Sustainability Office, are leaving Cornell and she asked if the EA could send them well wishes before they depart.

VI. Old Business

A. Committee Updates

T. Grove reported the Staff Recognition and Awards Committee will be meeting in January to discuss the nominations for the George Peter's Award.

E. Lee explained the Communications Committee will be holding a meeting soon to discuss the upcoming elections. The committee is also working on the EA e-news which is distributed every other month. G. Giambattista suggested coordinating the committee meeting dates and the deadlines for the newsletter so the committee can review and propose new ideas.

S. Jenks reported on the CIC. Although the committee has not met yet this semester, the issues to be addressed this semester include Diversity, Housing, TCAT, and Carbon Neutrality.

M. Stefanski Seymour said the Education Committee met twice and the next meeting is scheduled in February. The meeting will have a guest presenter who will share results from the CAP survey regarding education.

L. Croll Howell informed the EA the Personnel Policy Committee received permission to address the Maternity Policy. The committee members are currently working on gathering information on the issue and will be meeting to discuss potential recommendations.

B. Newsletter Update

There was a brief discussion on the updates to the EA newsletter. T. Grove suggested adding information on the staff's ability to receive W2s via email. G. Mezey asked for members' interest in writing a brief spotlight for the newsletter and suggested this could be something that each EA member contributes to.

VII. New Business

A. Elections

G. Mezey briefly explained with the elections calendar there are a lot of layers of complexity especially regarding the timing and more information on this will be coming to the EA soon.

B. TCAT Route 82

G. Giambattista explained TCAT has made a number of unexpected changes. These changes were done without notification to the Cornell community, including administrators. These changes will take place this month. G. Mezey added there are some positives to the changes being made but the EA is within its rights to express dissent, specifically over the lack of input and poor communication. He suggested bringing the issue to the SA and the GPSA for a larger collaborated movement.

B. Cristelli added at her units staff retreat many of the people expressed concerns about changes, budget concerns, layoffs, etc. and suggested the EA consider investigating these issues and providing employees with more information.

VIII. Adjournment

The EA meeting of January 7, 2015 was adjourned at 1:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Lender