

## MINUTES

University of Kentucky  
College of Agriculture  
StaffLINKS Committee Meeting  
July 12, 2012



### **Attendance:**

**Chair Christine Tawasha – Plant & Soil Sciences**

Patt Thompson - Ag Econ  
Lissa Pohl - Community & Leadership Development  
Alicia Landon – Plant Pathology  
Lisa Collins - Administrative Advisor  
Helen Williams - Veterinary Diagnostic Lab  
Cindy Stidham – Animal and Food Sciences  
Marilyn Lauer – Campbell Co Extension  
April Collier-  
Monica Shuler – Horticulture  
Debbie Mollett – Veterinary Sciences  
Bob Holley- KTRDC

### **Absent:**

Kacie Johanasen – Entomology  
Debbie Gutierrez – Forestry  
Julie Tolliver - BioSystems & Ag Engineering  
Steve Patton- Ag Communications  
Paul Wilson- Regulatory Services Programs  
Sabrina Carter – Fulton Co Extension  
Stephanie Crouch – County Extension  
Christina Goff - County Extension Programs  
Marilyn Hooks- West Kentucky Station Ext.  
Kym Pope - County Extension Programs  
Gil Thurman – Franklin Co Extension  
Diane Warren- Quicksand Extension

### **Minutes:**

Chair Christine Tawasha called the meeting to order at 11:59 AM on Thursday, July 12, 2012. There was a quorum so the meeting was officially in order.

#### Website-

Lisa Collins discussed the introduction of the new Staff Links website which is to serve two main roles: 1.) as a means of advocacy for staff with in the College of Agriculture, regarding budget issues, staff cuts, professional speakers and the like and 2.) to publicize projects for staff such as community service and to act as a means of connecting to the community in general.

#### Spring Clothing Drive-

At 12:03 Chair, Christine Tawasha, brought up the recent clothing and food drive held by Staff Links and thanked members for the great success of their efforts. Christine also led a discussion on what made the effort so successful. A Strategy worth considering in our next clothing and food drive was repeating the practice of having designated bins for each category- men's, women's and food. This cut down on quite a bit of sorting prior to donation.

Lisa Collins also thanked the group for their efforts and suggested a thank you email be sent to all who contributed.

#### Staff Appreciation Day-

Christine Tawasha introduced the next order of business which was Staff Links' contribution to Staff Appreciation Day and following up on prior discussions to set up a table for a book exchange.

#### Coupons for Troops-

Christine Tawasha followed up on a proposed charity activity which benefits troops with expired coupons. Coupon Cabin runs the program and it was suggested that Staff Links representatives set up a collection box in each of our departments to send away every few weeks or once a month.

Lisa Collins suggested that each Staff Links rep should keep track for the department of how many coupons are sent to measure the impact of the program. She also suggested that an email to our respective departments to inform employees of the program would help us increase our success.

#### Events for the Upcoming Year:

- Circle of Love- Christine Tawasha touched base on our annual Circle of Love program which occurs in late November. Lissa Pohl suggested that Staff Links could benefit from a subcommittee to simplify logistics and it was agreed to form the committee at the next meeting in August. Lisa Collins suggested Brooke Stone might be a good point person to advise the subcommittee.
- Joy Long Garden- Christine Tawasha brought up the subject of maintenance of the Joy Long Garden that is currently being maintained by the college of Agricultural Economics and PPD on a volunteer basis but that the Garden might benefit from Staff Link's involvement. Lisa Collins proposed the idea of creating a Joy Long Commission within the college of Ag. for the long term maintenance and preservation of the space. Continued discussion and thought on the matter is encouraged for next meeting.
- Violence Intervention Programs- Lissa Pohl suggested having several events brought to the College of Ag surrounding this subject matter. One suggestion was that Sally Evans, an educator on preventing violence, come to the College of Ag. and speak in November. This would foster intervention skill development as well as a college wide awareness of how we treat one another that could include more than just faculty and staff. Christine Tawasha suggested maybe the program would be successful if offered as a Green Dot Seminar. Bob Holley suggested that these Staff Senate Training sessions might be a good thing to do every semester. Cindy Stidham suggested that one way to encourage attendance is to have a resource web page and links and the Dean's support and encouragement, perhaps via email.
- Sock Hat Collection for the Homeless- suggested by Monica for further discussion at the November meeting.

Other Business:

Cindy Stidham addressed the problem of a tripping hazard in crosswalk 7.

Pat Thompson, Cindy Stidham and Lisa Collins brought up the issue of clocking in and time keeping procedures in the future as computer based timesheets go into effect at the end of this year.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:53 pm. Motioned by Christine Tawasha, seconded by Patt Thompson. Respectfully submitted by Alicia Landon, Secretary.