



Truckee Meadows Community College

Faculty Senate Recognition & Activities Committee

MEETING MINUTES FEB. 9, 2017

Call to Order: 3:30 p.m.

Present: Cathy Brewster, Becky Calhoun, Erin Frock, Tammy Johnson, Olga Katkova (Chair), Sandra Martinez, Michelle Montoya, Barb Painter. Cindy Stone, Dolores Wonder

Absent: None

Guests: Cheryl Cardoza

Approval of the December 1, 2016 Minute

Michelle Montoya moved to approve the minutes from Dec. 1, 2016. Dolores Wonder seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Cathy Brewster reported that the Great Pumpkin was found at Edison.

Recognition Awards

Olga reported that Nicole Shimabuku was voted Professional of the Month for February. The vote took place online

Valentine's Day Fundraising

Olga proposed selling roses for Valentine's Day to raise money. One of her students offered the services of her Aunt who owns a flower shop. This person could get warehouse prices for roses: 20 for \$15. Olga felt that that would not generate much profit and would be more hassle than it was worth. Dolores suggested green carnations for St. Patrick's Day. The committee was generally in favor of this idea. It would be an easy way to make money and would work best if they sold them 2-3 days before the 17. They would need volunteers to do this. It was suggested that letting faculty know in advance would help with sales. Members also recommended that they could get the flowers for cheap from Costco especially if someone has a membership there.

Distinguished Faculty Awards

Sandra Martinez is serving as chair of that committee. She has seven solid committee members. She reported that there were only four candidates for the Service awards. One of the nominees is ineligible, and one didn't want the nomination. There were two candidates for Teaching. One declined the nomination, so now only one is left. Candidates will submit materials on March 5. The Committee will review those in March. Discussion centered around the lack of candidates. Olga pointed out that even with extended nominations to the 19th of January, the pool is too small. It is unheard of to have only one candidate per category. Barb mentioned that we really need to do something to make sure that Model Dairy can make an award. Dolores suggested we go through the process for the candidate: observation and interview. If the committee doesn't find the candidate worthy, the committee should not give the award this year. Becky asked if we could extend the deadline again and get more candidates. The committee felt that as the candidates already know they were nominated, this might cause problems and insult them. Cathy recommended bringing the candidate in no matter what. She mentioned that if the candidate doesn't work out, we have to let Model Dairy know. Olga reported that a number of candidates asked for the rubrics so she sent them to all the candidates. The committee explored why faculty are not interested in these awards. Dolores thought people were too busy and burdened by current events. It was remarked that the Professional of

the Month Awards do generate a lot of quality candidates because the process is easier. Cathy asked about the regent's awards. Barb pointed out that it is also a lengthy process and that faculty decline because putting packets together is too much work. The system also offers a very short window for that work. Some nominees are also discouraged because they've lost in the past. One service award nominee is unclear about why they were nominated for a service award when the focus is on teaching. Cheryl Cardoza suggested that nominations should come from Deans or VPs to help add to that. Leaving faculty to nominate each other is part of the problem. The committee agreed that this process needs to be reviewed and new strategies considered.

2017 Employee Awards Ceremony

The ceremony will take place on Tuesday, May 9, at 3 p.m. in the Student Center. The Regent's Awards, PTK Teachers of the Year (PT and FT), tenure, years of service, etc. are awarded here. The committee will give flowers to each awardee. There's no need for volunteers as that is already covered.

Other Business

Dolores asked a question about contract days as Graduation is scheduled for a week before the original date. Cheryl pointed out that grades are due the following Tuesday, and as far as she is concerned that should be the last day faculty would need to report. Barb Painter pointed out that faculty are obligated to be available for all of the days listed in the schedule to meet requirements.

Future Meetings: Mar. 9, 2017, Apr. 13, 2017

Meeting adjourned: 3:58 p.m.