
MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPT. 14, 2017

Call to order: 3:31 p.m.

Present: Susan Bluhm, Cathy Brewster, Erin Frock, Lauren Gatto, Sandra Martinez, Michelle Montoya (chair), Cynthia Olivo, Cindy Stone, Dolores Wonder

Absent: Barb Painter

Guests: Amber Anaya, Kate Kirkpatrick

Welcome Committee Members

Chair Michelle Montoya opened the meeting welcoming all attendees introduced themselves.

Approve Minutes from April 13, 2017

The April 13, 2017 meeting minutes will be reviewed for approval at a future meeting.

Jenga Tournament

- **General discussion:** On August 17 the committee held the 11 Annual Jenga Tournament, with nine groups participating, it is an event many look forward to.
- **Changes for next time:** Ideas discussed were how to get more participation, create a previous champion email that could be used as a healthy competition tool, create a flyer for each department that could be displayed during division meetings.

Cynthia Olivo suggested working the crowd and inviting people over to play as a way to get more participants versus hiding behind a table and waiting for people to come.

Professional of the Month

- **Voting for August today and September next Thursday:** Due to the slower pace of summer, it was agreed to hold any summer nominations until August. A doodle poll will be sent for voting with the nominee bio information stored on Google Drive.

Pumpkin Decorating Contest

- **Possible dates:** Dates discussed for the pumpkin decorating contest were Wednesday, October 25; Thursday October 26; Monday October 30; and Tuesday, October 31. Due to the large amount of activities already scheduled the first choice was Tuesday, October 31 with the 30th and 26th as second choices. There will be a gift card raffle, candy bags for participants, and a grand prize candy filled pumpkin for the winner of the contest.
- **Volunteers needed:**
 - Table set up from 9-10 a.m. Tables will be in a horseshoe shape for better traffic flow.
 - Volunteers will be needed to man the tables from 10-2 p.m.
 - Vote counters and clean up volunteers will be needed from 2-3 p.m.

Memorial Plaques

This is a continuation of the work begun last year to memorialize deceased TMCC instructors. There are beautification funds available and the committee will decide how to best decide who gets to be memorialized; i.e., part time versus full time or by years of service.

Other Business

- **Night at the Theater:** Cathy Brewster discussed doing a night at the theater for new employees. This year's presentation is The Rocky Horror Picture Show. In the past discounted tickets were offered to staff and everyone met for drinks and snacks before the show. Kathy asked the committee if we want to do this again.

Another suggestion Kathy had was to do a fundraiser for Night at the Theater and sell glasses of wine for one dollar each. The committee would have to seek President Hilgersom's approval. The committee agreed to revisit this fundraiser in the spring.

- **The Power of Gratitude:** Kate Kirkpatrick, Director Marketing and Communications spoke about gratitude, improving our culture and shared an article by Christine Peyton titled The Power of Gratitude that appeared in the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR). The article discussed employees at South Louisiana Community College who participate in a gratitude campaign called #ThankYou Thursday. Kate gave some suggestions for ways we can show gratitude to each other here at TMCC and asked for suggestions from the committee.

Suggestions given by Kate and received from the committee were: To have TMCC do a thank you campaign we share in social media, reinstate kindness cards, make a traveling Wizard the Lizard that can visit offices and departments, and send notecard recognitions.

Kindness cards were a print and fold card that was sent to any employee via interoffice mail. Kathy Brewster may still have some and will give to Michelle Montoya.

Future Meeting Dates

October 12, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. in RDMT 255

November 9, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. in RDMT 255

Meeting adjourned: 4:35 p.m.