MINUTES

Attendance: Kristine Dodd, co-chair; Barbara Simoneau, co-chair; Eric Anderson; Sarah Aneyci; Linda Angela; Sarah Brown; Dawn Cummings; Daisy Ferreira; Carolyn Harris; Ethan Hebert; Annemarie Kennedy; Liisa Laine; Michael Leitao; Robert Mattei; Anita Nester; Bethany O’Hara; Abigail Peterson; Jennifer Quiroz; Felicia Raton; Heather Robichaud; Maria Sokolova; Beth Travers; Alex Vidmar; Ray Windsor; Grace Young

Absent: Maria Fontes; Marguerite Joutz; Erin Royal

I. Introductions of Members Unable to Attend Orientation

II. Staff Concerns

Daisy Ferreira brought a concern from the Director of Nursing and Director of Health Services related to the timing of the December holiday party co-sponsored by SAC. Health Services can’t close during exams, so no one was able to attend the event. Health Services employees would like the party to be later in the day because all staff were on call from 3-5 p.m., with a small crew additionally having to work at night.

Liisa Laine had brought up in an earlier SAC meeting many Facilities employees noting that the party was earlier than usual this past year, conflicting with many meetings that didn’t end until 5 p.m. However, the party was hosted at South Street Landing, and parties in that location begin earlier in the day, typically running from 2-4 p.m. SAC had advocated for a later start due to the staff concerns expressed but did not have final say in the hours. SAC will raise the discussion again this year and request that the University consider a 4-6 p.m. event to be more inclusive.

SAC will obtain and distribute a more formalized breakdown of the holiday party, from breakdown of costs compared to previous years to how concerns and considerations in planning had been addressed.

A parking concern emailed to SAC from an employee in the Jewelry District was sent to Transportation & ID Card Services System Analyst Mike Leitao and Transportation & ID Card Services Director Carleia A Lighty for follow-up and response.

III. BEAR Day

Darlene Williamson, Manager of Talent Development, will present at the next SAC meeting on February 11th. Please think of things you’ve seen in past BEAR Days or BEAR Months that you’d like to see replicated again or that you didn’t think worked. February 18th is coming up
quickly!

Email Co-Chair Kristine Dodd or Barbara Simoneau with ideas right away so they can connect SAC members with the BEAR Day committee. Ray Windsor is on the committee on behalf of MCB and offered to represent SAC as well, cautioning that the committee is a large time commitment. The committee will meet up soon, probably on February 3rd (SAC chairs will share details) to hash out both the day and the month. Felicia Raton volunteered to join the committee on behalf of SAC.

Mike Leitao noted that complaints about accessibility come up every year for BEAR Day just as they do for SDD and the holiday party and hopes the committee will consider the varying schedules of Brown employees.

IV. Parent Networking Group Children’s Clothing and Gear Collection

Grace Young started the Parent Networking Group (PNG) when she was pregnant with twins on top of already having a toddler; it’s a support network for expecting, new, and seasoned parents to share ideas and information. It launched in April 2018 with informal lunches but is now a well-attended wellness-type event with guest speakers to present on topics related to children or parenting.

Several parents expressed interest in a clothing and gear swap, and the PNG will turn a collection into a fundraiser to benefit the Brown and local community. New and gently used baby clothes/gear, maternity clothes will be collected, and recipients of the goods will be able to fill a bag full of donations for a fee of $10-15. The event is on March 26, from 12-1:30 p.m. in the Kasper Multipurpose Room, and all proceeds will be donated to United Way.

Volunteers are needed to host sites for baby gear/clothes and to collect boxes. Help will be needed sorting the gear, then after the event moving unclaimed items to Savers, Goodwill, or a local non-profit neighborhood association. Finally, promotion of the event is needed to get as many donations as possible.

Mike Leitao asked if the PNG reached out to Human Resources to connect to wellness. University Human Resources is investigating the possibility of taking over the Parent Networking Group and providing wellness points.

Carolyn Harris suggested posting the flyer on all of Brown’s lactation rooms. Linda Angela requested that donation recipients be an organization that doesn’t make money off the donations (the way Savers does) such as Sisters of the Poor. Carolyn Harris added that the Smith Hill Community Development Corporation helps low-income and homeless clients. Sojourner House and Dorcas International Institute were also suggested.

V. Sub-Committees

A. Survey results for subcommittees / subcommittee assignments

Diversity & Inclusion: Ray Windsor, Abigail Peterson, Sarah Brown, Jennifer Quiroz, Bethany O’Hara, Alex Vidmar

Outreach & Communications: Annemarie Kennedy, Robert Mattei, Anita Nester, Carolyn Harris, Eric Anderson

Volunteer: Daisy Ferreira, Erin Royal, Felicia Raton, Liisa Laine, Dawn Cummings

Events & Participation: Maria Sokolova, Sarah Aneyci, Grace Young, Ethan Hebert, Michael Leitao, Beth Travers, Heather Robichaud
B. Goals for the Spring / Budget / Timelines - Working lunch planning
The Council split up into sub-committees to begin fleshing out the scope of their work for 2020.

Upcoming Events:
• February 11th: Sub-committee goals & planning for Spring 2020 (brief presentations)
• February 11th: SAC meeting with guest speaker, Darlene Williamson, Talent Development Program Manager
• Parent Networking Group - Children’s clothing and gear donation collections starts in early February, ends on March 26

*The next SAC meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 12 p.m. at the Watson Institute, Joukowsky Forum.*