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Added by [Gail Shannon Steinhart](#), last edited by [Gail Shannon Steinhart](#) on Oct 12, 2009

Minutes of Library Forum Steering Committee meeting: October 1, 2009, 10-11 a.m.

Attending: Rachel Brill (co-chair, facilitator), Carla DeMello (recorder), Tiffany Howe (Coordinator? Assistant?), George Kozak, Cecilia Sercan, Gail Steinhart (co-chair)

- Discussion: Gail and Rachel reported on their meeting with Ed Weissman and Don Schnedeker. Ed strongly urged us to keep Anne in the loop. Gail and Rachel drafted a letter to Anne; the steering committee reviewed and approved it. Rachel will send it to Anne on our behalf.
- Decision: Ask Anne to plug Library Forum and encourage attendance, vote on bylaws, this is your chance to shape the Library Forum. We suggested holding one forum at Mann, one at Olin, one in the afternoon, and one in the morning so as to be as inclusive as possible.
- Decision: Rachel and Tiffany suggested a standardized, snazzy look for LF announcements and committee agreed.
- Decision: All members of the LFSC will be at these two open forums and will introduce ourselves.
- Action: Cecilia, Rachel, and Carla will bring baked treats and Gail will bring a gallon of cider to both meetings. (We'll need cups and napkins too!)
- Action: Rachel will work on logistics of e-vote.
- Action: Gail will make public parts of the wiki that contain bylaws and CDC charge.
- Discussion: how to manage volunteers for CDC. Keep track of who volunteered. Ask for statement of interest and in the invitation suggest that colleagues encourage potentially effective members to run. What do we do if we get too many volunteers? Keep track of names for future membership or committees.
- Discussion: Rachel and Carla will meet with Linda to talk about what it means to be an employer of choice in turbulent times. We will invite Linda to come to a LFSC meeting the next time she can come when all members will be there for a discussion on programming, specifically how to get staff to express to us their concerns and feelings. How do we achieve changes, address concerns in a way that's positive and effective, not just have gripe sessions that go nowhere. There's animosity toward leaders who are perceived as making a lot of money and has power yet nobody knows what they do.
- It's the small things that are the worst things. More people complained about discontinued refreshments than lack of raise.
- There's resentment toward staff with different work arrangements.
- What do people care about the most? What's appropriate to address at work?
- Weigh whether a mistake is due to a blunt style or inattention or a symptom of an issue that is more systemic and so is a candidate for LF discussion?
- Decision/Action: Committee members agreed to the suggestion to have independent conversations with staff in our circles: "What do you want from the Library Forum? We'd like to hear your ideas." Open communication starts with us.
- It was mentioned that selectors who meet with faculty will post an anonymous discussion on the wiki as a way to air concerns without

fear of repercussion.

- When Christian B. was the head of technical services he insisted on being reviewed by his staff. LFSC will ask Linda about that: are there already tools or guidelines for supervisors to solicit feedback and then take it seriously?
- Don't say everything you think.
- Announcements: Rachel Brill approached Dean Krafft about presenting "Why Do Libraries Need a CTS?" Suggested date for beginning of December.
- October 26, 27, and 28 are the dates for Linda's flu sessions.
- Gail will not be at the next meeting.

Labels: None

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