

TGEI Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2006

Members Present

Buddy Lea, Chair
Karen Hale, Vice-Chair
Joe Swinford, Past Chair
Renee Jackson
Martha Staley
Trent Ridley
Kendra Gipson
Jeanne Stevens
George Zukotynski
Marva Bradford

Members Absent

Ron Maupin
Tracy Stinson
Larry Richardson
Lynn Goodman, Ex Officio

Call to Order

The July Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m.

SubCommittee Status Reports

- TGEI/TGMI Fall Conference

Trent Ridley reported on the latest meeting of the conference planning committee. The committee has determined they would like to secure a speaker who will not only motivate, but will also convey management principles that will be useful to participants in their daily work. The recent event with Dr. Barry Bales was cited as an example of the type of speaker the group wants to obtain. The Department of Personnel is working with Governor Bredesen's office to attempt to schedule the Governor to attend for a short time, perhaps to give the charge to the attendees.

Registration will be \$40 per participant. Trent reported that this was the fee for last year's Fall Conference. Expenses last year were a little over \$8,000, and the conference came within \$42 of breaking even, so the fee was deemed appropriate.

The subcommittee has invited F&A Commissioner Dave Goetz to speak on the benchmarking study done to help the State assess its administrative functions, with comments on the areas where Tennessee is doing well. It has been suggested that the consultant for the study then address next steps for this effort. Other speakers being considered are representatives who graduated from the TGEI and TGMI programs, to discuss the value of the experience.

Kendra Gipson noted that the conference planning committee has discussed the idea of an exhibit from various state departments to showcase the awards they have recently received.

Trent also shared the idea of including a slideshow featuring TGEI and TGMI graduates who have 20 or more years of service with the state. These slides would cycle continuously during lunch and breaks. The group discussed how to identify these individuals and obtain their photos. Joe Swinford said he would talk with Lynn Goodman and request her assistance.

- TGEI Newsletter

Karen Hale reported she has passed along information to Lynn Goodman, who advised her that production on the newsletter had been delayed but it would be out soon.

- Brown Bag Meetings

Jeanne Stevens reported that she has traded phone messages with Thelma Kidd, an executive coach and “life coach,” to see whether she is available to lead a session at the Sept. 12 Brown Bag. Having had difficulty contacting Ms. Kidd, she will now contact another individual who has similar expertise.

Chairman Buddy Lea reported that General Bassham at TEMA would also be interested in discussing the state’s various Emergency Preparedness Plans. The group agreed this would be a good topic for the September Brown Bag if Jeanne is unable to secure the second speaker.

- 2006 TGEI Holiday Breakfast

There were no items to report.

- Updates on TGEI / TGMI Programs

Trent Ridley noted that the orientation for the TGEI Class of 2006, held last week, had gone very well, and complimented Buddy Lea on his remarks to the class. The group thanked Kendra Gipson for organizing the various Class of 2005 members who also participated in the orientation.

Buddy Lea said he will be attending a TGMI session next week to discuss services provided by F&A. He will be part of a group of other state agencies who provide support services, who have been invited so that TGMI participants can learn more about those particular agencies.

Treasurer’s Report

There were no items to report.

NEW BUSINESS

- TGEI/TGMI Golf Tournament

Joe Swinford reported that half the available slots have already been taken for the August 24 TGEI/TGMI Golf Outing. Sixteen slots remain; the deadline to sign up is Aug. 1. He and others are working to obtain prizes for the tournament winners.

A request has been made for someone to participate who is not an alumnus of the TGEI or TGMI programs. After discussion, the committee decided that person will be included among registered players on a tentative basis, to ensure that all alumni have the opportunity to sign up for a reserved slot. After the Aug. 1 deadline, if the slot has not been claimed, the person will receive confirmation.

NEXT MEETING:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m. The next meeting was set for August 18 at the WRS Tennessee Tower, Cheatham Room.