Chair Scott Unruh officially called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. Members in attendance were Mandi Bennett, Jaime Lundgren, Ken Messersmith, Pat Seaton, Jane Strawhecker, Janet Steele, and Cliff Summar. Members absent were Jon McBride and Nita Unruh.

Jaime reported that she and Jon have discussed formalizing the processes by which faculty are notified of missed classes by athletes and have drafted a letter. Since Jon was unable to attend today’s meeting more will be reported on this next month.

Scott reported that he will attend the national Faculty Athletic Representative Association meeting next week in San Diego. The RMAC FARA meeting will be held simultaneously. One item on the conference agenda is travel. Scott also expressed his desire to see, at some point in time, formal reimbursement for the individual in the FAR position, such as a small stipend, release time, or professional development monies. The NCAA considers the FAR at a similar “rank” to the athletic director in that both report directly to the chancellor or president of the institution.

Jaime reported that there are 75 applicants for the head women’s soccer coach position. The search committee will meet Friday with each member reporting his or her top 8 candidates. The committee will then develop a short list and begin phone interviews. The goal is to have a coach hired by December 1 for a January start. In addition, a job announcement will be coming out shortly for an assistant athletic trainer. This is a new position, and New West Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Surgery will help sponsor the position.

Scott introduced Mandi Bennett, Athletic Department graduate assistant. Mandi reported that she has finished setting up this year’s student-athlete satisfaction surveys and will have data from last year’s surveys at next month’s meeting.

Cliff inquired if it might be possible to give student-athletes priority registration so they can get classes that work around their practice schedules. It was generally agreed by the committee that this privilege would have to be extended to all students involved in university-sponsored activities (for example, band and theater). This kind of change would most likely have to be approved by the Student Senate before advancing to the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 1:59 pm. The next meeting is planned for 1:00 pm on Tuesday, December 2 in the Zikmund Conference Room.