Staff Council Meeting Minutes  
Location: WebEx  
June 30, 2020 3:00 p.m.

Members Present  
By Proxy: Noelle Freese

Members Absent:  
Sharmeen Ahamed, Veronica Harris, Amanda Horne, Jennifer Turner

Others Present  
Nonvoting members: Debra Cortinas, Jaclyn Mahlmann, Miguel Moreno, LaNiece Tucker  
Guests: Monet Love, Ross Bernhardt, Michal Wood

I. Call to Order – Frank Harrison  
Meeting called to order at 3:02 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes – Julie Shuttlesworth  
A. Janney made the motion to approve minutes.  
B. Weise seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

III. President’s Report – Frank Harrison  
- Overview of Robert’s Rules of Order and meeting expectations.  
- Report on meeting with Faculty Senate Speaker Dr. Miguel Moreno  
  o Constituent concern over lack of COVID transparency  
  o M.. Moreno reported concerns among faculty regarding reporting students and overall numbers.  
  o Joint concerns with overall communication  
    ▪ J. Mahlmann reported student COVID guide coming out soon and a COVID reporting process. Also new university face covering procedure.  
  o Rep. Salinas had question about COVID syllabus statement  
    ▪ M. Moreno said he has asked Provost about that.  
- Recommendation to create Ad Hoc committee to Survey to the staff  
  o Last done 2016  
  o Two types: Satisfaction survey or Immediate needs/current issue  
  o Any members interested in serving on committee should email SC Admin Tucker by July 6.
IV. Vice President’s Report – Sharmeen Ahmed
   • Absent – No Report

V. Treasurer’s Report – Cassie Eyring
   • Salaries have been encumbered
   • No new expenses.

VI. Committee Reports
   • Benefits & Employee Development – Joanne Salinas, Chair
     • No report
   • Bylaws and Constitution – Alexandra Janny, Chair
     • First Committee meeting July 1
     • Drafting committee charge & Plan of action
   • Nominations & Elections – Julie Shuttlesworth, Chair
     • Scheduling meeting to review 2020 Spring election
   • University Relations – Jennifer Escamilla, Chair
     • No report

VII. Ad-hoc Committees
   • Annual Employee Luncheon – Candance Martinez, Chair
     • Will schedule meeting prior to retreat
   • Dorothy Yeater – Melissa Zamora, Chair
     • Summer 2 accepting applications
   • Employee Excellence Awards – Sharmeen Ahmed, Chair
     • No Report – Absent
     • President asked HR representative for update on plan
       o Ceremony for 2020 will be in September Virtually

VIII. Liaison Reports
   • Faculty Senate – M. Moreno
     • COVID Faculty Concerns Survey
     • Responses showing faculty very risk adverse
     • Concerned with push to have face to face classes.
   • HR Updates – D. Cortinas
     • Office fully functional by appointment only
     • HR Website has CARES Act benefit info
     • Annual Enrollment will be virtual
     • No increase in Health insurance costs
Wellness Committee – F. Harrison
  • Employee Development – Virtual “Keep Climbing” continuation

IX. Tabled Business
  • None

X. New Business
  • Solidarity Statement
    o A. Walker proposed that a statement from Staff Council on Diversity/Black Lives Matter would be “healing” for campus.
    o Discussion by members.
    o Motion for vote to create Diversity/BLM solidarity statement
      ▪ First by F. Harrison
      ▪ Seconded by A. Janney
      ▪ Motion passed: Yes:20, Opposed: 1

  • Juneteenth – Texas Independence Day as University Holiday
    o A. Walker proposed that Staff Council advocate for the recognition of June 19th as university holiday.
    o Discussion by members.
    o D. Cortinas reported that there is a set number of state holidays, so one of the current holiday dates would need to be eliminated to add Juneteenth.
    o Vote to bring forward holiday idea to administration
      ▪ Motion passed: unanimously

  • Retreat
    o F. Harrison reported that the Staff Council Retreat will be in August

  • Diversity Hiring
    o A. Walker proposed that Staff Council address the issue of Diversity hiring.
      ▪ Tabled to Old Business next meeting.

  • Discussion on Web links, recording meetings and posting for constituents.
    ▪ Tabled to Old Business next meeting.

XI. Meeting adjourn at 4:08 pm.
A. Janney made the motion to adjourn
A. Walker seconded the motion.