

Staff Council General Meeting Minutes
Sam Houston State University
March 10, 2021

I. Call To Order

Justin Ball called the meeting to order at 1:32pm.

II. Reading/Approval of Minutes – Kristin Ware

The February meeting minutes were emailed to members on February 24th. No corrections to the minutes were received. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jerrell Sherman and seconded by Megan St. Vigne. All members were in favor and none opposed. Minutes were approved.

III. Treasurers Report – Jennifer Alexander (on behalf of Rachel Bubela)

Jennifer submitted the following balances:

- PDC: \$3,533.71
- Friends of Staff Council: \$4,626.73
- E-board: \$830.00
- Staff Development: \$370.00
- Nomination and Elections: \$50.00
- Special Events: \$2,574.27
- News and Networking: \$5.48
- Staff Affairs: \$0.00

We are currently receiving \$65.00 per month in payroll deduction donations for Friends of Staff Council.

IV. Chairs Report – Justin Ball

Justin introduced the idea of “open discussion” and opening the floor to members to constructively discuss concerns, upcoming events, etc. He recently met with Dr. White and discussed updates to policies and feedback received from Staff Council representatives. She plans to bring an outside evaluator to campus and to meet with university groups and organizations including Staff Council.

V. Committee Reports

News and Networking: Jerrell Sherman

Jerrell reported that the March winner for Spotlight on Staff is Leo Queen from The Graduate School (details pending). His committee has been working hard to keep up with marketing and programming announcements on social media. They will also be making updates to the website, including adding pictures, updating personnel and minutes.

Nominations and Elections: Natalie Payne

Natalie reported that her committee met last week to discuss the timeline and distribution of duties for the upcoming election. Kristin and Natalie reviewed recent attendance records. Natalie relayed her concerns about attendance and reminded the group about the attendance policy. She encouraged everyone to email Kristin with absences.

Special Events: Maggie Odom & Shelly Nettuno

Maggie reported that the committee is currently working on a spring grab-and-go event with a tentative date of May 19th. The event is pending approval.

Staff Development: Haley Rothrock & Nikki Stifflemire

Nikki reported that PDC is Tuesday and encouraged everyone to sign up for lunch if they hadn't already done so.

Staff Affairs: Tiffany Driver

Tiffany had nothing to report at this time. Justin reported that he met with Dr. White and discussed the question we received regarding insurance issues for gender reassignment surgery. Thus far, no one is aware of any incidents.

VI. Old Business: Updates, Discussion, or Action

There was no old business to discuss.

VII. New Business: Updates, Discussion, or Action

Justin opened the floor for discussion.

Kristin asked Justin if there was any update about the search for a new Provost. Justin replied that they were currently reviewing applications for the position.

Katie W. inquired about whether the staff tuition benefit was in jeopardy. Justin replied that it will stay in place as is.

Nu announced that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. A calendar with events and trainings will be disseminated soon.

Chantel reminded members that the Annual Giving Campaign will close on April 2nd and encouraged everyone to make a donation.

Megan R. announced that the Student Health Center is offering COVID testing to faculty, staff and students. Some vaccines are also available as long as you meet the criteria.

Natalie reminded members that the email transfer to the Cloud is coming. They started with students and faculty/staff will be next, by division. She noted that access to shared mailboxes may temporarily lapse during the transfer. Kristin asked if students will receive the same benefits as faculty/staff and Natalie indicated they would.

Justin commended News & Networking for the committee's marketing of PDC.

Divisional Reports:

None.

VIII. Upcoming Events

Next General Staff Council Meeting – April 14th, 1:30pm

IX. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Kristin Ware on 3/29/2021