

Thursday, January 14, 2021

▪ Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 2:01 PM

▪ Approval of December 10, 2020 meeting minutes

- Betty requested to be changed from Plush to Plus on page 5
- Carolina clarified a statement on money
- Leo voted for approval, Zach seconded, all in favor
- Carolina confirmed meeting minutes approved with revisions.

▪ Updates and comments from the President

- Welcome new member: Sami Thompson
 - Please welcome Sami. Floor opened for Sami to introduce self.
 - OSEL as Assistant Director of extended and family orientations. Back for over a year, previously at AC, WT before that. Excited to get to know us.
- Thank you for participating in Christmas activities (video, parade)
 - Carolina thanked everyone for the different activities. Great video, big thanks to everyone, but especially David for putting it together. Heard from many that it was a very nice thing that everyone appreciated, especially during all that is going on.
 - The parade, was fun as well! Didn't expect to make as many baggies as we did. Estimated 100, made 500, and had 30 leftovers that were taken up in the HUB. Thanks to everyone who helped put the bags together and came to the parade. Thank you!
- Quick Poll
 - Is everyone still okay with just having the zoom meetings, or would y'all prefer in person as well?
 - Buff Branding is reserved through August, but only a 14-person capacity in COVID. If some would like to meet in person, that is an option. Was not a fan

with the camera and set up when we did both, but okay if majority of group wants that.

- Who is interested in meeting in person again? Three raised hands.
- Carolina is going to offer both, and if folks want to meet in person, we will do that. She will try to better position the cameras and tables to make more comfortable and flow well.
- Thank you for the input.

▪ **Old Business:**

- “Gallery of Excellence”: update on funding
 - Funding – would we be able to receive funding from the philanthropy office to continue. Dr. Raspberry confirmed he will continue to try to provide food and cover the cost of the photos. Assuming we have a photographer willing to do the work as a service to this group. Ashley is still willing and able to do photography.
 - David asked if the email was done in writing. Carolina confirmed email with Dr. Wendler on it. David recommended a new folder in the G:Drive with any content, confirmation, etc. so Staff Council knows who to go to in future for resources.

▪ **Staff Council Subcommittees**

- Employee of the Month Committee (Betty)
 - Abby’s EOM for December January 21st at 10:30 am. Everyone should have received the link.
 - Kyle Estes is January EOM. Got nominated again January 3rd. His will be after Abby’s is done.
 - Announcement supposed to go out. Ashley mentioned needs accessibility alternate text.
 - Need more nominations – feast to famine! Not more than 2 after January. David suggested sending All Campus email about it again.
- Treasurer & Scholarship Committee (Ashley)

- Sent report with BSR. There are several deposits made at the beginning of the semester and is unsure why are not at beginning, they backdate them. Added the new ones and that is why it has the September date on it. Typical deposits to our account each year. Unsure of guidelines or the contract as far as how Staff Council is funded. Some are deposits from outside accounts that we don't control. Not sure about how much we have to budget each year. In thinking about this with their weird popping in, may be something we want to have a conversation with. Might be Mark Hiner. As we are putting more money out for scholarships and aren't getting money we have gotten before, may be something worth re-visiting.
- Operating fund – one IDR for EOM that came out. Covers the plaque. Tuition assistance fund scholarship – 2 contributions. \$75,000 populated in September. \$32,750 worth distributed from December 15 – January 12. Faculty endowed – 7 more scholarships for a total of \$3,500. Deposit allocations also added at beginning of year. September through November money came in in December. Dana hoped on saying interest dividends that come in form A&M quarterly. Different from deposit talked about earlier. Ashley mentioned tuition assistance coming from other account, Dana said those are budgeted. Principle S/F had no change. S/F scholarship interest – quarterly payments of interest. Gave 2 F/S dependent scholarships. Principle unchanged. Staff Leadership had four new deposits that showed up, quarterly interest from other account tied to it and a staff leadership scholarship for \$150.
- Carolina added that after our last meeting, Betty reached out to Shelly McCune and confirmed that the \$3,290 is our annual operating fund. Carolina confirmed the \$75,000 is what we receive for scholarships, which is what we've received for the last 4-5 years. Ashley confirmed what we should be thinking about.
- Berlin asked about where it says different numbers of individuals with different number of amounts. She asked how we determine who gets how much money. Ashley mentioned on the 3rd BSR you'll see the individual breakdown. Berlin

- asked about what the distinguishment is for how much they get. Dana mentioned there is a process with HR for allocation. If employee is full-time budgeted employee, they, their spouse, and dependents are eligible. 3 hours - \$500, less than 3 - \$250, over 6 hours - \$1000. Dana said Berlin could call her office for more information.
- Betty asked if amount was \$250 and not \$2250 and Ashley said she'll fix it. Ashley said she'll fix it and post to the website. She wanted an explanation of the \$32,750 and understanding it.
 - Approval of Treasurer's Report
 - Berlin moved to accept as amended, Leo seconded, all in favor.
- Staff Appreciation & Events Committee (Ronnie)
- Met yesterday. Spring event I Caught You Caring. We are split into different committees and working on that.
 - It is an opportunity if a staff member is going the extra mile, they can be nominated and get a flyer with what nominator said and then they'll get \$5 on Buffalo Gold Card (BGC).
 - Just for staff, a staff council event. Faculty have been nominated, and we'll do something different for those that are not staff.
 - February 8-12 for nominations and those through BGC.
 - If you need fundraising, Barbara Ferrara helped get the funds quickly! We have enough raised.
 - Betty asked if they are allowed to be nominated more than once, Ronnie said yes, will receive the cards, but only one \$5 nomination.
 - Lasty year 700 nominations, Abby is taking upon to organize and print those.
 - Everyone will get a card for each nomination.
- Spirit Committee (Candice)
- Welcome Back event
 - Dane is the Word Guy

- Going to deliver a bag of chips to all staff with a note that say 2020 was a bust, try your luck in 2021. We'll have decks of cards and tape to the chips, if you get 21 you get a drink voucher for your chips.
 - Emailed Mike Knox about donating drink vouchers, but waiting. Betty already got chips and cards, Dane making the cards. COB will donate a gift card. If anyone knows anything who can donate drink vouchers, let us know.
 - We will need help putting together, maybe Tuesday early afternoon to put together. Friday we will go and deliver. Any suggestions on times to meet? Betty mentioned using a room in the classroom center that has good space, CC 209 if convenient. Candice asked if later in the week would be better so we can leave the items. Betty said not many use the room. She suggested she could unlock it for people to come help as they can and lock it up after. The more hands the better. Candice asked what day people would prefer to meet and with delivery Friday. Carolina said prefers Tuesday around 2pm. Carolina mentioned she has everything if folks want to work Tuesday morning.
 - Candice asked if anyone had recommendations or suggestions on the event. Betty asked where the drinks would come from, asked if we could run a tab and do an IDR toward that cost. We can control how many 21 cards we give out. Carolina said Study Abroad can donate \$25. Betty suggested making a ticket and we could settle it later. Dane is going to create and print the labels off. He will have them available Tuesday morning.
- Professional Development Committee (Jeff)
 - Birthday emails still going out. Continuing those. Early stages of looking at mentoring program to introduce to campus. More info to come, when available.
 - Communications & Outreach Committee (David)

- Member Mondays and Did You Knows when they can. Spreading them out to cover in academic year.
- Carolina asked about Sami's headshot for the website. David will touch base with if she has one.
- Election Committee (David)
 - David opened the floor to Zach for some farewell words.
 - Zach said he was thankful for the opportunity to work with so many over the years. Thanks for what you do and as a former student, the work you do is incredible. He appreciates the professionalism to fellow staff and students and wishes the best moving forward. Thanks, and go buffs!
- **Announcements**
 - Farewell and thank you to Staff Council member Zach McMeans
 - Carolina thanked him for all his work and everything he has done for staff council and wishes the best. Excited for opportunities ahead.
 - WTTV, *Fanfare* digital newsletter (Dane)
 - Dane help run this. If you have any events you're running or promoting, feel free to share with us. Will get it out!
 - Carolina thanked him and asked if we have been using that for EOM announcement and will continue to do that.
 - Buffs@Work Virtual Coffee: January 15, 2021 at 2:00 PM on Zoom
 - University holiday: Martin Luther King, Jr.: January 18, 2021
 - Abby Betts EOM award presentation: January 21, 10:00, *Zoom*
 - Encouraged to attend
 - Other announcements
 - None
- **Adjourn**
 - **Meeting called to a close at 2:44 PM**

<i>2019-2020 Staff Council Member</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>EEO Category</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Attended Since July 2020</i>
Betts, Abigail “Abby”	2022	EEO 3	Y	6
Broughton, Kendra	2021	EEO 5-7	Y	7
Castagnetta, Tamara	2021	EEO 3	Y	7
Copelin, Candice	2021	EEO 3	Y	7
Eller, Ashley	2021	EEO 4	Y	6
Ellis, Sandra	2022	SSC	Y	7
Ferrara, Barbara	2022	EEO 5-7	Y	4
Flatt, Kenneth	2021	SSC	Y	6
Galloway, Carolina	2021	EEO 1	Y	7
Glenn, Dane	2022	EEO 3	Y	7
Green, Ryan	2022	SSC	Y	7
Hall, Ronnie	2021	EEO 3	Y	7
McIntosh, Berlin	2022	EEO 4	Y	6
Thompson, Sami (McMeans, Zach)	2022	EEO 3	Y	7
Melcher, Dana	2021	EEO 1	Y	5
Reid, Leo	2022	EEO 1	Y	6
Riggs, Cindy	2021	SSC	Y	7
Stocker, Betty	2021	EEO 3	Y	6

Sulik, Jeff	2021	EEO 1	Y	4
Webber, Darcy	2022	EEO 3	Y	5
Wilson, David	2020	EEO 3	Y	7
Yildirim, Taryn	2022	EEO 4	Y	7