

Staff Senate

Held on: February 14, 2006, 10:00 AM
Held at: 702 John Gray Library

Lamar University Staff Senate
February 14, 2006

Senators present:

Royce McGuire, Dawna Mitchell, Donna Blaisdell, Dwight Anderson, Valerie Black, Ben Bythewood, Lisa Cowart, Jana Daigle, Connie DeSha, Nicole Eugene, Steve Ford, Mary Givan, Charlotte Holliman, Faye Johnnie, Irma Jones, Cynthia Ksiazak, Wendy LeBlanc, Gail Martel, Liz Mitchell, Frances Morris, Gene Moye, Kathy Pierce, Sharon Sanders, Dave Stafford, Jamie Turner, and Don Curl substituting for Cathy Dunaven.

I. Call to Order

President, Royce McGuire, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Secretary, Donna Blaisdell, called roll. There were 24 senators present at roll call. A quorum was seated.

III. Minutes

Connie Desha made a motion for the November, 2005, December 2005, and January 2006 minutes to be approved. Jana Daigle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the minutes stand approved.

IV. Committee Reports

Staff Awards Committee: Committee Chairman, Donna Blaisdell, gave a brief report on the Staff Awards Ceremony that had been held February 9, 2006. Irma Jones inquired if service pins were available. Donna responded that there were a limited number of some pins. Anyone interested in getting a pin should check with Jana Daigle on the availability of the requested pin. In exchange for a pin, the recipient must return their prize selection catalog and order form.

Valerie Black inquired as to whether or not retirees and distinguished staff had the option of receiving cash instead of ordering a gift. Donna replied "no" to the question. Jana explained that it is because taxes must be withheld from the cash award and reported as income on an individual's taxes. The Staff Award Committee had voted against giving the cash award for said reasons.

Community Service Committee: Sharon Sanders reported that a bake sale will be held today in the Setzer Student Center as a fund-raiser for the March of Dimes. Lisa Cowart reported that the Staff Senate would have neither a tent nor food at this year's March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon.

Lisa reported that an informational meeting for Toast Master's International will be held Tuesday, February 28, 2006 at noon in 104 Setzer Student Center. This meeting is for all students, faculty and staff who might be interested in forming a Lamar chapter of Toast Master's International.

Lisa also informed the senate body of the Volunteer Readers Program for grades 1-6 in conjunction with BISD. Anyone interested in volunteering their time should contact Lisa Cowart.

Nominations Committee: Jana Daigle reported that she had sent out nomination forms to areas needing senators.

V. Unfinished Business

By-Laws Committee: Ben Bythewood read the proposed duties of the Treasurer. Jana Daigle recommended that the wording to item # 5 be changed to read "LU Staff Senate Budget Account" replacing the wording "Checking Account." Jana made a motion that the Duties of the Treasurer be accepted with the recommended changes and be placed in the Staff Senate By-Laws. Connie DeSha seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. New Business

Steve Ford inquired about the Staff Appreciation Luncheon. Royce McGuire said that she would check with Mark Asteris for specifics.

VII. Good of the Order

Jana Daigle reported that "My Lamar" is in the pilot phase and any staff interested in participating should see her to activate their pin number.

Valerie Black suggested that the senators get Polo-shirts to wear to each monthly meeting. Liz Mitchell said that she would check with different vendors to get a cost estimate.

VIII. Adjournment

With no further business, Wendy LeBlanc made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned. Liz Mitchell seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:50. a.m.