

Staff Senate

Held on: November 9, 2004, 10:05
Held at: John Gray Library

Lamar University Staff Senate
November 9, 2004

Senators present:

Jana Daigle Gail Cokley Steve Ford Jeremy Landry Kathy Russell Dawna Mitchell Gail Davis Lena Francis Royce McGuire Sharon Sanders Diana Licatino Connie DeSha Mike Fuller Frances Morriss Dave Stafford Julie Alford Amanda Doiron Mary Givan Gene Moye Kevin Whalen Valerie Black Cathy Dunaven Eddie Henley Diann Palmer Margerie Weston Donna Blaisdell Sherri Fitzgerald Shannon Klutts Sandra Robbins

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by President Jana Daigle.

II. Roll call

The roll was checked by Secretary, Diana Licatino. There were 29 senators present at roll call.

III. Minutes

October minutes were unanimously approved after a motion by Sherri Fitzgerald and seconded by Jeremy Landry.

IV. Committee Reports

Executive Committee: Dr. Simmons was presented with a list of retirees for review and a PO to transfer money for the retiree's luncheon and reception. Jana Daigle reported that we had met with a new company we could use for staff awards that would offer more awards and possibly save money for the university. She also talked about a possible presentation after the first of the year to Dr. Simmons and Mr. Ferguson for approval. Distinguished Staff Nominee gift baskets with items donated by the Health Center, Career Center and the Post Office were displayed and discussed. A Thank the Troops update was given and explained that we were taking donations to help with shipping costs. Jana also reported that the Staff Senate would be helping with the Dessert Gala for Cardinal Lights. Dr. Simmons thought this was a great idea. Jana then reported that the nominations committee was working on a proposal of how to create a fairer environment for all employees for the staff senate. March of Dimes was also discussed and Dr. Simmons and Mr. Ferguson are checking into some legal issues and food issues. Dr. Simmons also suggested that we get the SGA involved and get with Dr. Johnson to do this. Dr. Simmons also said we would not be combining efforts with LIT. Dawna Mitchell reported that she had sent emails out to campus committee chairs to let them know that the Staff Senate had an interest in serving on their committees but has gotten no response back from the committee chairs. Dr. Simmons said there were some stipulations about some committees, such as his committees, he appoints those people. Other committees may have other rules or stipulations that they follow.

Nominations Committee: Sandy Tucker reported that she has received a report from HR and is in the process of calculating the number of staff employees so they can go further with their proposal of changing the senator count from 1 senator for every 10 employees to 1 senator for every 15 employees.

Community Service: Shannon Klutts reported that Friday, November 12 is the last day for the Thank the Troops boxes. She will pick them up and will get with Jana Daigle to check items and get them packaged for shipping. Shannon also reported that the Staff Senate would need volunteers to donate finger type desserts for the Dessert Gala at Cardinal Lights. You can drop off your desserts in the Setzer Center, room 133 starting at 9:00am on December 2nd. Cardinal Lights will be from 4:00pm to 7:00pm on December 2nd.

Awards Committee: Jana Daigle bragged on the Awards Committee and their great success this year with the event, everyone seemed pleased with the presentation. Jana Daigle asked if Donna Blaisdell has begun on next year's event. Donna reported that she has reserved the 8th floor of the library. Jana Daigle finally found someone who knew the intentions of the \$100 retiree checks. The \$100 was simply an acknowledgment that they retired from LU. Jana would like the Awards Committee to look into something other than the \$100, possible a watch designed especially for the retirees that you could only get by being a retiree. The proposal will have to go through Dr. Simmons before any changes could be made.

V. Unfinished Business
None

VI. New Business
Computer Security Awareness Week kickoff is November 12th starting at 9:00am.

VII. Good of the Order
The Setzer Center will be putting up a tree with yellow ribbons in honor of the troops for Christmas. They will also be accepting food donations for needy area families and they will have a box for Christmas cards to the troops.

Kevin Whalen in Athletics reminded us that the basketball season will start Wednesday, November 10th. There has been a really good response from staff members to work home basketball games as ticket takers and ushers.

Jana urged Mike Fuller to bring up his concerns of issues he discussed with her earlier in the week. Mike brought up the fact that we needed a follow up on the Merit Pay proposal. He also urged us to keep track of the Legislature and what they are doing because they could do things that could hurt us in regards to our insurance.

Eddie Henley informed us that January 24th is a chance to speak to our state representatives in Austin. Jana let the Staff Senate officers know that we do not have a travel budget to use to travel to Austin.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:43 am with a request by Royce McGuire, a move to accept by Sherrie Fitzgerald and seconded by Gail Cokely.