

University of Maryland, Baltimore Staff Senate
Open Meeting Minutes
September 6, 2007
HSFI 516

Roll Call:

Present Senators: Sharon Andres, John Barber, Danielle Brown, Colette Becker, Aphrodite Bodycomb, Kiscia Cannon, Shannon Cooper, Ken Fahnestock, Phyllis Lovito, Tom McHugh, Roy Ross

Jill Venezian, Dionne Washington.

Alternates: Andrea LeFever, Libby Guarnera, Jean Marie Roth

Excused Senators: Liz Casher, Bill Crockett, Dave DeLooze, William Griffin, Debbie Hortsman

Alternates: John McNair

Ken called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM and asked for the Roll Call.

Minutes: The motion was made by Tom McHugh, seconded by Roy Ross and carried to approve the Minutes of the August 7, 2007 meeting as submitted.

Remarks from the Executive Committee (Ken Fahnestock):

- Had to reschedule the Ramsay meeting with the SS Exec Committee. Will contact committee when new date is established.
- Fall Fest staffing for the day's event needs to be established. Colette to make new flyers. Poster to be made by Ken.
- We need to update the listserve e-mail file for sending out information to the staff. Too many bad addresses. Colette is working on this.
- Staff Senate Newsletter was released in August.

Meeting with HR -

- AIG Valic contract has ended. Staff will be contacted via mail and given opportunities to change ORP's and SRA's.
- MOU negotiations are coming up. Contract expires in March.
- A rumor of possible layoffs in the future was sent to the Staff Senate Chair. Mary was asked if this was heard at her level. It is just a rumor. No plans are in place for such layoffs.

Committee Reports:

Campus Life - Aphrodite Bodycomb (Chair)

Aphrodite reported that she has emailed her committee for ideas for upcoming year. Things she would like to see the committee work on are child care; parkers parking closer to work assignments and commuter programs.

Policy and Legislation Roy Ross

Communication and Nomination

- Founder's Week will take place October 8 -12 activities planned are:
 - Founders Week Gala
October 9
 - Research Lecture
October 10
 - Entrepreneur Breakfast
October 11
 - Student Cookout
October 11
 - Staff Luncheon
October 12
- Looking to put out next Senate Connection newsletter in October. If you want something in the issue please contact Ken or Colette.

Community Outreach Tom McHugh -

CUSS:

Attended meeting: Debbie Horstman, Dave DeLooze, Colette Becker
Place: Salisbury University
Date: August 14, 2007

The new CUSS Chair, John Wolfe, presented the objectives for the 2007-2007 year:

The Council of University System Staff discussed several areas to establish priorities for 2007-2008. It narrowed focus to include, but is not limited to the following:

- To stimulate continued support and sustainable commitment to the practice of shared government
- To recommend policy review as it relates to Human Resources issues for Excluded staff to assure consistent application of existing policy,
- To review and recommend procedures to assure currently of exempt staff pay administration, and
- To promote an educational program that clarifies the distinctions in shared governance.

Dave DeLooze was nominated by Roy Ross for a Member-At-Large position on the Executive Committee. A vote was held and Dave and former CUSS Chair Joe Hill from UMBC were elected to the two open Member-At-Large positions on CUSS. Colette Becker was once again asked to Chair the Community Development Committee that oversees the BOR/CUSS Staff Awards process.

Ann Timmons from the State of Maryland, Department of Budget and Management, Employee Benefits Department came and spoke to the group about health care benefits. She was asked by Rosario van Daalen, Human Resources Officer and CUSS Liaison from the USM offices to address staff concerns about dental insurance and the availability of dentists that accept the insurance. Ms. Timmons informed that group that all staff should do research ahead of time to see if dentists in their area accept the dental insurance before they sign up for the benefit.

The bi-annual exempt salary structure is currently under review and will be presented to the Board of Regents at their April meeting.

Campus Committee Reports:

Special Events: Kiscia reported that cookbook sales are still being pushed for those interested. The committee is currently working on programs for Black History Month and Women's History month celebrations.

IT: No meeting scheduled

Library: No meeting scheduled - Aphrodite reported that the Weiss Gallery exhibit "Changing the face of Medicine" an exhibit celebrating America's Women Physicians. "A Lady Alone" a play celebrating the Life of Elizabeth Blackwell, MD will be performed by Linda Gray Kelley on September 11, 2007 at 4:00. It is free and light refreshments will be served.

Parking: No report

Safety Awareness:

Jill reported that the University police has completed its 3-year accreditation cycle and will be reaccredited and recognized in Denver in November. Some changes on campus: an increased bike patrol, more campus presence, and an increase in the size of the force and number of security personnel.

Safety tip: Don't leave **anything** of value, including a handicapped parking tag, anywhere in view in your car!

Crime is at its lowest point in thirty-eight years on campus.

UMB Alerts, UMB announces a new emergency text messaging notification system: as of September 12, 2007, you or your family members can sign up on-line at www.alert.umaryland.edu for emergency announcements, weather closing announcements, and school announcements. You may choose various options concerning the type of messages you choose to receive.

The campus police website is being updated to make it more user friendly.

The UMB 1One Card is the official university ID. The police control building access and deactivate lost cards. They also should be notified in case of lost cards, as they maintain a lost and found repository.

A new RAD class will begin September 24 and run through October.

The University escort service offers walking escorts or patrol car delivery after dark.

The bio park garage is now open to student parkers, and shuttle service is available to the main campus from the bio park.

There will be a residence life safety presentation on September 20 from 4:30 till 6:00 p.m. in the multi purpose room of the student center. Advance reservations to Nicole Wilderson are requested.

The next meeting will be November 1 (Thursday).

Old Business:

Ken to do proclamation to support Maryland Charity Campaign and distribute to staff and post to the Staff Senate website.

New Business:

- Colette will be ordering name plates for senators that do not have them. She will be contacting senators before placing an order.
- Ken has been asked to provide a goal statement for the Staff Senate for FY08 to be published in the Voice.
- Board of Regents Staff awards are coming up in January. Need to start identifying possible candidates for these awards to be submitted in January.

Adjournment: Before calling for adjournment Ken reminded all Senators that our next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 4, 2007 in HSF I 516 (12:00 - 1:30). The meeting was adjourned at 1:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Phyllis Lovito
Secretary/Treasurer