

SHSU Staff Council Meeting
February 13, 2008
1:30 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
 - a. The meeting was called to order by Staff Council Chair Elect, Terri Harvey, at 1:35 p.m.
 - b. Minutes from the November 2007 meeting were reviewed with no corrections. A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded.
 - c. The January 2008 minutes will be reviewed at next meeting.

- II. Guest Speakers – Chief Dennis Culak, University Police Department, and Dr. Debra Price, Chair, Faculty Senate.
 - a. Parking issues – Chief Culak distributed handouts to show parking configuration of campus map for fall semester.
 1. Large parking area removed for Performing Arts building (see two “X”s on attachment).
 2. Lots will be fenced off in early August 2008, losing 160 spaces for faculty and staff.
 3. From University Theatre to CJ Center will all be faculty/staff lots.
 4. Small lot (Blue lot) located by Recital Hall and Sorority Hill will now be faculty/staff.
 5. Therefore with current lots changing to faculty/staff, the total loss of spaces is 15.
 6. All changes will take place in August 2008.
 7. Previously, John McCroskey, Assistant Director of Physical Plant, stated no new paving projects are planned for the next fiscal year.
 8. A question was raised about the handicapped parking problem on the ABIV side of campus. Chief Culak stated that Doug Greening, Director of Physical Plant, is currently reviewing this problem. Chief Culak stated there are certain special terrain requirements that have to be met, and currently that terrain is not meeting those requirements.
 9. Another Council member stated there have been two reports of people falling in the parking lot off Sam Houston Avenue and 20th Street due to the loose gravel in that lot. Chief Culak will report to Mr. Greening.
 10. A Council member asked about any other policy that SHSU personnel can follow to keep students from parking in faculty/staff lots, which are losing parking spaces. Chief Culak advised towing is an option, but that would take extra staffing, and staffing is critical at UPD. Chief Culak distributed handouts showing SHSU’s UPD staffing is far behind as compared to other Texas universities.
 11. Chief Culak stated police officers respond to all problems, not student employees.
 12. A Council member asked if parking attendants were to have some sort of identification on them. Chief Culak stated they should be wearing a gray shirt.
 13. Another member asked if student volunteers could help with parking maintenance especially those enrolled in SAM 136, since it is a service-learning project. Chief Culak stated that parking maintenance is actually handled by Physical Plant. Chip Bounds stated that he would speak with Mr. Greening about the situation.

14. What should the foot patrol officers be doing? Checking residence halls and providing escorts to parking lots.
15. A question was raised regarding parking permits for the parking garage. Why do parking garage payees have to pay \$500 to park in the garage plus another \$75 for a regular parking permit? Chief Culak stated that some expect that those folks should not be allowed to take up the \$75 spots. To ensure that does not happen, the \$75 charge is required to make it fair for everyone to park where they want.
16. A question was raised about a campus shuttle? According to Chief Culak, a University committee is in place to review this. It is going to be expensive. It does not look like parking is painful enough to pay for the shuttle services, and the parking garage is still not full.
17. What are parking ticket fines at other institutions? The Chief was not sure, but he stated that when the fines were slightly raised at SHSU, the Appeals Committee saw an increase in the number of complaints.
18. The lack of sufficient bicycle racks issue was raised, including problems with bikes being chained to handicap rails and step rails by ABIV. The Chief stated that staffing problems do not allow the foot patrol to monitor this problem.
19. New parking hangtags will be out in August 2008, and they will be a smaller version of what is currently used.
20. UPD ordered 250 decal stickers for those employees who prefer stickers over the hangtags. Only one hangtag or sticker is allowed per employee per parking fee paid.
21. A member asked if there are enough faculty/staff parking spots on campus for the number of employees. Chief Culak responded, yes, because there is still room in many lots. The only full lots are on the south side of campus.
22. Faculty/Staff may park in any lot regardless of lot color.

b. Smoking Issues/Ban

1. UPD will respond to calls about someone smoking too close to a building although right now the city courts do not accept tickets for this issue. Chief Culak will research it further. There is no way to strictly enforce this issue. Patrol officers can take down students' information, complete a report and send to Dean Yarabeck, but no action can be taken towards faculty/staff.
2. Terri introduced Dr. Debra Price, Chair of Faculty Senate, who stated the Faculty Senate sent around a questionnaire asking faculty their thoughts on a campus-wide smoking ban. The Senate would like to require either no smoking on campus once you leave your vehicle or offer a smoking designated area. Dr. Price stated the Senate did not want to move forward without the support of the Staff Council and the Student Government Association (SGA). SGA is supportive of either alternative. The three groups (Faculty Senate, Staff Council & SGA) need to come together to at least move the smokers away from the buildings. The Faculty Senate is interested in researching covered areas for smokers.
3. A member stated staffing issues would become a bigger problem if there were a total ban on smoking because folks will get in their cars and drive off-campus to smoke. This would only cause shortages in office staff.
4. A Council member moved to propose designated smoking areas for campus. The motion was seconded. A vote of the Staff Council was taken with 17 in favor of

the motion and 2 opposed. Debra Price stated she would take the vote results to the Faculty Senate and then on to the President's Cabinet.

5. A Council member asked Chief Culak whom to contact in regards to the golf carts and the cracks that are on the sidewalks from their travel. Chief Culak explained Physical Plant supervises the assigned golf carts for their area and the other carts belong to Computer Services. A member asked if ID numbers could be placed on the carts so that the cart number could be called in to the appropriate office if there are any problems. Chip Bounds, a Physical Plant employee, stated he would work with Physical Plant in seeing that ID numbers are placed on the sides and the rear of the carts.
6. Terri thanked both Debra Price and Chief Culak for attending.

III. Committee Reports – none

IV. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Minutes taken by Trina Strange