

Sam Houston State University
Staff Council Meeting
April 9, 2008
1:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order by Staff Council Chair, Kristi Kreier, at 1:35 p.m.
- b. Minutes from the March 2008 meeting were reviewed and one correction noted: amend II.b. (Old Business) to read posting “No Smoking” signs. A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded.

II. Old Business

“No Smoking” policy – letter from Faculty Senate addressing the “No Smoking” policy recommending tobacco-free campus with smoking only in specific areas (parking lots). After a brief discussion, council members suggested that the “specific areas (parking lots)” be changed to “designated areas” as discussed in the meeting that Dr. Debra Price, Chair of Faculty Senate, attended. Kristi Kreier will contact Dr. Price to ask her to make the change on behalf of Staff Council.

III. New Business

- a. Kristi Kreier appointed the following members to the Staff Council Election Committee: Valerie Sparkman, Chair; Teri Neiderhiser, Brandon Cooper, Ann Broussard, Sherry Hirsch, Carol Shaw, and Trina Strange. Recommendations for committee members to review:
 1. Look at University divisions – never had members from President’s Office/ Athletics, should we change the number of members in those divisions?
 2. Possibly change wording for sections that read “29 or fewer” to read 1 member instead of 2 – easier to fill with fair representation.
 3. Number representation does not seem equal – should it be decided upon according to division, or not?
 4. Look at where the division numbers would be at today – Valerie Sparkman stated she would check on current numbers and would e-mail council members if a special meeting was needed before election time. Kristi Kreier asked members to e-mail Valerie Sparkman with any ideas or suggestions.
- b. By-law updates – in Article V. sections 1 & 2 – change senate member to council member.
- c. Summer meetings – haven’t been required in past because of prime vacation time – Kristi Kreier will consider and let us know.

IV. Committee Reports

Communications Committee, Angie Burns – Chair

Angie announced that the newsletter will be out soon.

Public Relations Committee, Sophia Polk – Chair

Sophia announced that the committee would like to propose not holding the Spring 2008 Ice Cream Social due to funding limitations.

Instead, the committee suggested possibly doing a “Staff Employee of the Month” in place of it. The purpose would be to recognize everyone on campus and show them how special they are. We could request a biography from them as well as take their picture and post all of it on “Today @ Sam.” The committee hopes that this will be a continuous project for Staff Council. It was also suggested that certificates could be given to the recipients with low cost to the Council. Another suggestion was to draw the recipients from the leftover pool of nominations for the Staff Excellence award. Kristi Kreier asked Sophia Polk to look over the suggestions and regroup with a recommendation at the next meeting.

Kristi Kreier announced that she would ask at the next Budget Committee meeting that the funding for the Staff Council be at least doubled. Therefore we would definitely need to hold off on the Ice Cream Social until next year. It was also mentioned that attendance is usually lower at the Ice Cream Social due to staff going on vacations, or because some people feel that if they attend the Fall Social then it might not be necessary to also attend the Ice Cream Social. After brief discussion, a motion was made to not hold the Ice Cream Social this year with a unanimous vote accepting that motion.

Staff Development Committee, Valerie Sparkman – Chair

No report.

Administrative Issues Committee, Wesley Boyd – Chair

They are still working on the idea of recognizing staff members on their accomplishments.

Campus Enhancement Committee, Vicki Barrilleaux - Chair

No report.

V. Announcements

Kristi Kreier encouraged Council members to attend the campus master planning meetings to have input heard.

VI. Adjournment – Teri Neiderhiser made a motion to adjourn, with Chip Bounds seconding that motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.