Staff Council Standing Committee Minutes: Executive

Date and Place: 6/5/19, University Club
Members Present: Angie Beauchamp, Autumn Collins, Ryan Gregg, Nancy Shane, Brian Vineyard,
Members Excused: Rob Burford, Armando Bustamonte, Mary Clark, Amy Hawkins, Arcie Chapa
Minutes submitted by: Nancy Shane

1. Agenda Approved: 10:30 PM with addition of Senior Games (Brian)

2. Minutes Approved with correction from 5/29/19

3. Administrative Officer’s Report (Ryan, in Amy’s absence)
   a. June Business Meeting Agenda
      i. Ryan explained that prior UNM Staff Council member Lukas Cash connected Staff Council to New Mexico United, for which Brandon Baca will be the guest speaker in June.
      ii. Nuts and bolts. With Brooke leaving, we will ask councilors for volunteers in June, and consider it a continuation of New Councilor Orientation. Amy can work to keep it institutionalized.
          1. We intend to alternate Adam’s 10-minute tidbit with Nuts and Bolts. June – Committee Speed Dating. July – 10-minute Tidbit, up to Adam. August – next Nuts and Bolts.
      iii. Meet Your Councilor. New addition to the Business meeting agenda. 2-3 Councilors will introduce themselves and talk a little bit about their jobs here on campus, and perhaps why they are a part of Staff Council. They will then pick who will go next month.

4. President’s Report
   a. New: Ethics Task Force
      i. Ryan would like to appoint someone from the Staff Council Ethics Cmte to the University-wide Ethics Task Force. Brian, as a member, suggested Lisa Beauchene as she has adopted the informal lead; Kristina Rucker has a less flexible schedule.
   b. New: Fence Article
      i. A single constituent reached to at least 3 councilors about the fence, including Ryan. Ryan shared that he’d talked to Terry Babbitt in the President’s office, who’d shared that the University had requested expert advice on how a fence might be done. UNM contracted a study resulting in a 45-page proposal about six months ago. Although the University does not seem too intent to proceed, it may be the University would consider some limited fencing in places. We speculate that the Safety Task Force may be addressing this issue.
ii. Ryan shared that in his written statement to the press, he had stressed that staff are consulted in important decisions like this and would expect that to happen this time; and that he appreciates the need to balance UNM as a community resource with safety. The Albuquerque Journal cut the sentence referring to the fact that it’s not a proposal yet.

c. Information: Announcement regarding the hiring of the new President of the UNM Foundation, Jeff Todd, to start in September.

d. Information: Ryan and Nancy met with Ava on Monday. We exchanged contact information and mentioned that past business with Staff Council has often involved money from Chancellor’s Office for Staff Council events, though such money cannot be used strictly for staff. Ava expressed understanding and support for the fact that we have dedicated funds that must be used for staff only on main campus.

We also discussed the Cancer Center constituent who was recently reclassified as a critical worker. This designation seems to come from the fact that Huron Consulting made the recommendation in their work to create more efficiency. Ava was cautious, suggesting Staff Council should not be investigating all staff complaints; but Ryan shared with her (and us) that part of the role for Staff Council is to connect constituents with the right resources. In this case, the constituent had already mentioned wanting to speak to HR; and Ryan agreed that seemed reasonable and will encourage her in that direction.

5. President Elect’s Report
   a. Nancy stated she will try sharing the report at business meetings by topic rather than date.
   b. Nancy asked about the idea for a staff t-shirt design contest, with which she had worked with Rob – is this within the scope of her report in June? Given that the agenda item reads ‘Executive Committee Report,’ we are interpreting that to mean ‘no.’
      i. The Cmte agreed we could mention the fact that we discussed the idea and seek volunteers.
      ii. Ryan mentioned that at his undergraduate school, the bookstore had purchased machinery to make their own t-shirts, thereby keeping those dollars on campus.
      iii. The Cmte encouraged Rob and Nancy to meet first with the Marketing and Communications.
   c. Nancy is considering a Staff Council bookclub, the book to be determined by whomever joins up. One suggestion is to use the same book as the Lobo Reading Experience. May be able to have the Bookstore stock the book.


7. Treasurer’s Report
   a. Angie shared that she and Amy had an initial meeting; Amy is very organized. She will send a draft summary report.
8. Roundtable
   a. Campus explorations. Ryan would like us to make some site visits, perhaps in conjunction with ‘Let’s Do Lunch,’ on weeks Executive Cmte does not meet, e.g. Children’s Hospital. We can help drum up support for ‘Let’s Do Lunch.’ We will continue discussions.
   b. Senior games. Brian mentioned that a Constituent of his commented that the President’s offer of flex time and paid leave to work in the Senior Games in a way constituted ‘bribery.’ This staff person felt other volunteer opportunities should equally be recognized. Autumn and others explained the idea that the Senior Games are different – national in scope and will bring a lot of tourist money to town, perhaps encourage people to retire here. The mayor’s Office on Aging had submitted the proposal. The City and UNM have a relationship with respect to Senior Games in part due to UNM sports venues, and in part with offer for volunteers. Brian suggested the President communicate this idea more thoroughly to staff.

     Ryan offered to bring up the idea of supporting volunteerism at the next policy meeting.

9. Meeting adjourned: 11:50 PM