

Minutes
HSU Staff Senate
March 13, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Henderson State University Staff Senate was called to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Sun Room by President Drew Smith.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Amanda Baker, Angie Bradshaw, Martha Bryant, Brenda Callaway, Deborah Collins, Denise Cordova, Renee' Davis, Anna Eudy-Espinoza, Calvin Francis, Tina Furr, Danica Golden, Josh Hebig, Ernie Higgs, Becky Hughes, Amy Hunnewell-Fitzroy, Penny Kinder, Rene Loy, Mike Pennington, Beverly Quillin, Drew Smith, Rhonda Thigpen, and Sharon West.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the previous meeting were distributed. Minutes were approved as amended on motion by Joe May, seconded by Martha Bryant.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Drew reported that he, Amy Hunnewell-Fitzroy, and Brenda Callaway, met with President Jones on February 27 to discuss issues facing Henderson and the work of the Staff Senate. The Concealed Carry Bill that will allow university boards of trustees to decide if they will permit faculty and staff that have concealed weapons permits to carry them on campus was discussed. Also discussed were the upcoming tax and revenue changes being considered by the legislature that will have an effect on Henderson's budget. Much is still undecided by the legislature, leaving the budget process uncertain. President Jones once again reiterated his support of the work of the Staff Senate.

Faculty Senate President Dr. David Evans and Smith met with Vice-President Bobby Jones on Thursday, February 28. Evans brought up an issue regarding the security of personal information of Henderson employees being placed on MyHenderson. The issue relates to someone hacking into another state university's system and obtaining personal information, such as Social Security numbers, of employees. Jones stated that he will check with David Epperhart, Director of Computer & Communication Services, to make sure that the personal information of all Henderson employees is secure.

House Bill 1418 is currently before the legislature, that would take sales taxes from the sales of new and used vehicles and designate it for road maintenance and construction. This money has been placed in General Funds, and thus, the state universities in Arkansas have received money from this fund. Henderson currently receives about 2 million dollars. If this bill passes, this money will not be available to Henderson.

Jones continued to emphasize that Henderson will budget conservatively based on 97% of expected enrollment. He also mentioned that the current tuition rate contains a \$13 per credit hour fee that goes to athletics. This may be moved out of tuition charges and become a separate fee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. HANDBOOK

Smith reported the committee was in the process of re-writing the staff handbook to include updated information and policies, and more information on Henderson's history and tradition. The handbook will be more user-friendly and placed on the web in a searchable PDF format. The first draft deadline is set for April 15th. The staff senate will review and approve the revised handbook before being presented to the President for final approval.

STAFF CONCERNS

Penny Kinder reported several staff contacting human resources concerning staff not being off any days during spring break and concerned the change was made without staff input. Kinder and Smith recommended conducting a survey asking staff if they would rather work two other days during the year to allow two days off for spring break. A motion was made by Denise Cordova, seconded by Becky Hughes, to survey staff in regard to changing the holiday schedule, particularly taking away of the two spring break days. The results of the survey will be compiled and, based on those results, a recommendation will be sent to President Jones. Smith advised he will meet with President Jones on April 4 and update him prior to the survey being conducted.

Deborah Collins raised a concern on parking tickets being written in the unpaved grassy area behind the Meir House. No signs are posted to designate no parking. Smith advised he will discuss this with Police Chief Campbell.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The results of the Conceal Carry Survey were distributed.

Jackie Inouye announced Henderson's Relay for Life team is having a golf scramble on April 12 in honor of Charles D. Dunn.

Martha Bryant reported that Public Relations is working diligently on the master calendar of events for all events being held on campus. She urges all departments to send her information on any events being held that the public is invited to.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Ernie Higgs, seconded by Martha Bryant, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting of Staff Senate will be April 10, 2013.