

**Present:**

Ev Barrett, Kristina Boggan, Martina Brewer, Jessica Coker, Gazel Giles, Shellie Harrison, Valerie Haynes, Carl Hill, Jamie Irby, Joanne Mitchell, Jean Munson, Kara Parham, EJ Presley, Cynthia Rimoldi, Pam Smith, Sovent Taylor, Precious Thompson

**Absent-Excused:** Kelli Coleman, Alicia Goodson, Kelly Houston, Robert Metzger, Michael Moseley, Cynthia Rimoldi

**Absent-Unexcused:** Jeff McManus

**Roll call:** (Sign-in sheet)

**Call to Order**

The February Staff Council meeting was called to order by Sovent Taylor at 10:35 AM, February 11, 2016.

- A. Report from Monthly Meeting with the Chancellor – no report
- B. Approval of January Minutes & Treasurer’s Report
  1. January Minutes – one change will be made
    - Motion to approve by Pam Smith.
    - Seconded by Precious Thompson.
    - The minutes are sent out via email, and any comments/questions/or changes should be emailed to Ev Barrett ([ebarrett@olemiss.edu](mailto:ebarrett@olemiss.edu)).
  2. January Treasurer’s Report
    - Motion to approve by Kara Parham.
    - Seconded by Jean Munson.
    - The Treasurer’s Report is sent out via email, and any comments/questions/or changes should be emailed to Kristi Boggan ([kboggan@olemiss.edu](mailto:kboggan@olemiss.edu)).
- C. Nominate and Vote on Staff Member of the Month for January
  - Ballot nominations are taken from the Staff Council website through staff member emails and from the Staff Council members at the meeting.
  - The nominations included: Michael Lewis (Facilities Management), Faye Young (University & Public Events), Taylor Skelton (University & Public Events).
  - In selecting a Staff Member of the Month, the Staff Council voted on the nominees and declared that the current Staff Member of the Month is Michael Lewis (Facilities Management).
- D. Chancellor’s Transition Committee update – Sovent Taylor

- The committee is trying to guide the Chancellor in just about everything.
- The committee has been fielding some minor complaints, mostly from faculty.
- The Chancellor is totally committed to the VC for Diversity and Community Engagement
- The Chancellor is committed to more staff hires.
- Dr. Vitter is scheduled to speak to us at our March 31 meeting.

## **New Business**

### A. Staff Appreciation

- Thanks to Sue Keiser, the Chancellor's office will pay for all of the plaques and the TV every year. We may want to recognize Sue's service to Staff Council at Staff Appreciation.

### B. Committee for Staff Appreciation – Gazel Giles, Chair

- This committee has been formed to help plan the Staff Appreciation events.

### C. Fundraising Committee – Kelly Houston, Chair

- No one has volunteered yet.
- We all need to give ideas for raising funds.

### D. New member nominations and elections

- Nominations began this week and voting will be next week 2/15 – 2/19.
- Jeff McManus is rolling off, so there is one open spot from the executive category. Sovent will check with Sue Keiser about a possible EEO-1 nominee.
- We have over 20 nominations and have 18 spots to fill.
- Valerie Haynes is resigning. Blake Bostick, Admissions Counselor at the Southaven Regional Campus, will be replacing her.
- This is the last meeting for Valerie and Jamie Irby. Jamie would still like to help with Staff Appreciation.

### E. Events for Staff Appreciation

- We may be able to have the basketball tournament in the Tad Pad.
- **Monday events** – Jeff will give a lecture on household plants. Bike shop will also do Maintenance Monday again. Sovent will also reach out to Kate Kellum regarding bike events. Sovent is working on Rebel Well activities. Aqua-aerobics will be at the Turner Center.
- **Tuesday events** – aqua-aerobics; blood drive; zumba; possibly First Aid (Communiversality)
- **Wednesday events** – belly dancing (Communiversality) in the Union; music and meditation
- **Thursday events** – aqua-aerobics; plant swap; yoga and yogurt
- **Friday events** – The awards ceremony will be at the Ford Center. The Daniel Jones Outstanding Team Service Award will be presented to the team who goes above and beyond (deadline for nominations is April 29). To win one of the EEO category awards, you must have worked here at least one year. Sovent is ordering pins for years of service. Other events include bingo (which **MUST BE GREAT**), karaoke, and field day (Andrea Jekabsons).

- Staff members will still have a “free day” at the Turner Center.
- Tshirts – After much discussion, the council decided to look into possibly powder blue shirt with white writing and no date.
- Meal – we need to use Aramark at Rebel Market and have requested some variety. Christine is working with them and we will have some options to consider.
- The sponsor list was passed around.
- Door prizes – the list was passed around for members to start asking for door prizes
- It will not be possible to have golf on Friday afternoon because it is prime time for the golf course.
- New ideas: organized kickball game (instead of softball); volleyball; disc golf; ping pong tournament
- We will try to finalize the events and send out a “Save the Date” announcement on UM Today.

### **Old Business - none**

### **Committee Updates**

#### A. Parking update – Kara

- New parking lot on Jackson Avenue where Denver’s used to be – 130 new spaces.
- New parking lot across from Manning Way – 32 new commuter spaces; one way in and out.
- Whirlpool plant will have 560 new spaces for “silver” residential parking. This is a temporary solution for one year until new parking garage behind Kincannon is completed.
- For the new parking garage, there will be a new road built beside Kinard before May 16<sup>th</sup>. This will prevent parking behind Kinard while the road is being built.

### **Announcements/Concerns**

### **Meeting adjourned 11:30 a.m.**

**Next meeting:** The next meeting has been changed to Thursday, March 31, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. in 110 Lyceum. Dr. Vitter will speak at this meeting.

*Minutes submitted by Ev Barrett on March 2, 2016.*