

Staff Association Board Meeting Minutes March 18, 2021

Attending: Sheila Cannon, Chewi Lockhart, Ali Threet, Brooks Burr, Kristie Davis, Megan Church, Wendi Bulkley, Deb Millet, Allie White, Anilee Adams, and Riley McMullin.

Welcome – Megan

Guest Presentation – Henrie Walton

Henrie Walton provided a legislative update for 2021 and discussed the following items. His presentation is attached to the minutes.

- New Ongoing Appropriations. Appropriations begin for fiscal year 2022, starting in July of 2021. These appropriations include:
 - Compensation; this includes COLA and health premium increases for employees.
 - Performance funding; we received full funding.
 - Growth funding; which provides huge dividends to DSU.
 - DSU BioSTACKS Program. We will join biotechnology workforce partners to create a stackable credential program from a certificate to bachelor degree.
 - Higher Education for the Incarcerated Youth Program. This program provides virtual courses to long-term incarcerated youth and young adults within five facilities in Utah. Kevin Simmons, along with Nancy Hauck, Nate Caplin and Lowrey Snow, were instrumental in creating and obtaining funds for this first of its kind in the nation program. They will begin teaching classes this summer.
 - DSU Park Data App (one-time). This program was developed in conjunction with Eric Pedersen and his college - Science, Engineering and Technology. This app helps to eliminate the amount of wait time required to get into our Greater Zion State Parks. It also allows state parks to collect crucial data as they provide service to the public.
 - Land Bank – Campus Expansion
 - This provides funding for our campus expansion in the Desert Color Project.
 - Other State-Wide Appropriations
 - SB 102 Capital Facilities Intent Language. Funding is not paid all at once, it is paid over time along with our other institutions.
 - HB 328 provides funds to adult learners through scholarships. Students must be at least 26 years old and enroll in high demand programs before they can apply to USHE for funds.
 - The Sunshine Caucus. Henrie thanked our legislative advocates. They did a great job for DSU.
 - Name Change Update
 - Henrie provided a brief explanation regarding the recommendation for our name change at DSU. A survey was conducted last year and after we received the

results, it was recommended to the Board of Trustees to make a name change. There was a lot of push back from some legislators; however, we provided our explanations to them and a bill was created. There was more support from the House of Representatives than the Senate. It passed through the House and then went to the Senate, which took two weeks of conversations before they agreed to see the bill. Some compromises and rewording of the bill then took place. It was agreed that we would establish a committee of vested members from our four stakeholders; namely, the university, community, industry leaders, and students. The Board of Trustees will announce the committee members and then start the process to rename and rebrand the university. This must be done by November at the latest; however, some people feel that it needs to be done sooner because of all of the controversy over this. Legislation provided us with some guidelines; however, they are not something that must be followed.

Megan thanked Henrie for his wonderful presentation and for his service to DSU in government relations.

Information/Action Items

Approval of Previous Minutes

- Ali and Chewi approved the minutes from our meeting on February 17, 2021 with unanimous approval from the remaining board members.

President's Items - Megan

- University Council
 - Regarding student fees and tuition increases, Paul Morris adjusted our academically focused fees and put in tuition dollars to keep costs down for the coming year. Megan will try to get Paul's presentation for us.
- Looking ahead to 2020-2021
 - The Who We Are Campaign. We are creating a movement to get staff to come to the Staff Association Board for help and to ask questions. We want staff to know who we are. Approximately 130 staff members completed our survey. Allie is trying to get the raw data from Google and then she will send that to us. She will visit with Jon about sending it out again.

Treasurer/budget report – Kristie

- There were no changes to the budget.

2021-2022 Nominations - Megan

- Megan will send out an email for nominations from April 1-10 with voting from April 27-May 15. Please send recommendations to Megan, especially from those who are leaving this year.

Committee Reports/Assignment Updates/General Questions

Scholarship - Treasurer, Kristie Davis & Brooks Burr

- Brooks mentioned that he sent out an email advertising our scholarship, with no response yet. Per our discussion from last month, we want names for full-time and part-time staff and if we

don't get any response, we will accept names of part-time staff who are students and then full-time students as a last resort.

Welcome & Staff Mentoring - Chris Gifford & Megan Church

- Megan mentioned that her committee could not meet last month; therefore, they will reschedule. She would like to get some voluntary mentors who can help them.

Events - Chewi Lockhart & Wendi Bulkley

- Chewi reported that our Faculty and Staff Appreciation, New Orleans style outdoor event with Trailblazer beads is ready to go with creole food and Cajun music on April 29. This will be in front of the HPC and SAC.

Awards & Recognition - Deb Millet & Sheila Cannon

- Deb mentioned that our Mini-Trailblazer Awards are ready to go out for February.
- She mentioned nominations for the Staff Member of the Year and Staff Rising Star of the Year Awards are coming through; however, we need more people to be nominated.

Legislative - Riley McMullin

- Riley was not in attendance; however, Henrie provided plenty of information for us.

Health & Wellness - Wendi Bulkley

- Wendi mentioned that we plan to participate in March Madness again with Ken Beazer. She will send out an email to see who wants to participate.
- We have a lot of great things happening with health and wellness for staff. Megan suggested adding this to our web page.
- We will start our step challenge in April.

Professional Development - Megan Church & Sheila Cannon

- Megan reported that our last professional development presentation with Vice President Dell Beatty went well. We will now focus on Dixie Development Day and restart professional development again in the fall.

Service – Allie White

- Allie is working on getting volunteers to help with the Ironman Marathon. Information will be sent out to everyone.
- The student pantry food drive begins today on the diagonal.
- Our clean-up hike is on Saturday, April 3.
- We could use volunteers for the Kite Festival.
- Brooks mentioned our Day of Giving on April 13. Donations help with funding across campus. They will be in the HCC all day collecting donations and volunteers who can help are appreciated. Donations can be made online too.

Dixie Development Day - Ali Threet

- Dixie Development Day will be held virtually on May 12. Ali mentioned that all of the proposals are in and their committee will meet on Friday to finalize everything.
- She is working with Megan on the software for this meeting. Registration will be up and running the second week in April with information coming next week.
- Our food has been ordered and we just need a headcount.

Compensation - Megan

- Megan mentioned that they are still working on a possible 3% compensation across the board. They have expressed their thoughts to the President about getting all staff up to equity.

Policy Steering – Rose Hill

- Rose was not able to attend this meeting.

Next board meeting Wednesday, April 21 at 9:00 am. Jon would like everyone to be in attendance if possible.

Upcoming Events for 2020 – 2021

- Faculty/Staff Appreciation Luncheon: April 29
- The Great Race: TBD
- Dixie Development Day: May 12, 2021
- Closing Staff Social: TBD
- Health & Wellness Activities (Ongoing - TBD)