



BHSU Staff Senate MINUTES
Monday, September 19, 2022 – 10 am

PRESENT: Aaron Bauerly, Kristin Carmichael, Scott Hanson, Janette Hettick, Dawn Hunter, Roxanne Lewis, Nancy Shuck, Ven Thompson, April Yenglin

GUEST: Prasanthi Pallapu

The meeting was called to order by President Nancy Shuck at 10:05 am. The minutes of April 25, 2022 were approved as submitted. The minutes of the all-staff meeting will be approved later.

Julz Nielsen resigned as BHSU's BOR CSA Council representative. Dawn Hunter volunteered and was unanimously appointed by the Staff Senate to serve as the At-Large Representative and the Representative to the BOR CSAC. The next meeting of BOR CSAC is October 25, 2022, in Pierre; Senate discussed items to share:

The current move-in date for the Library is October 1.

Mike Overby is arranging installation of new windows in Woodburn.

The online student tutoring initiative, a BHSU and Northern State University collaboration, went live on September 19.

The bylaws revision (establishing the at-large representative and BHSU CSAC representative) was approved in June. Another section of the bylaws needing revision will be brought forward later.

The BHSU Strategic Planning Committee has requested suggestions for ways to build a more supportive work environment. Suggestions included:

The mentoring proposal from Staff Senate (still developing)

Addressing salary inequities and the need for more positions to address chronic understaffing, and administration pairing expectations with staff limitations

Training and professional development opportunities

Recognition that every department is doing more with less

Increase in cost of living and how that impacts employees with low salaries

Improving communication, including informing staff when staff changes take place (proposals include establishing an out-of-office message in email for those leaving and forwarding emails to the new person responsible for those duties)

Kristin Carmichael (treasurer) reported no money spent from the Staff Senate FOP.

President Nichols will be invited to attend either the October or November meeting of the Staff Senate. October's meeting is October 17; November's meeting was moved from November 21 (the week of Thanksgiving) to November 14.

Holding upcoming meetings via in-person or over Zoom was discussed. April, Dawn, and Aaron proposed use of an Owl to allow hybrid meetings and Aaron will explore setting up the Owl for the next meeting. (Senators strongly agreed that the meeting with President Nichols should be in person by the Staff Senate but with the Zoom option for other staff.)

Swarm Week events were noted as upcoming events. Janette reported that classes will be viewable by students on SNAP September 23, registration will begin for certain groups October 24, with all students registered by November 11 (Summer and Fall 2023 semesters).

Scott displayed signs proposed for the BHSU Opportunity Center on the first floor of the library. He encouraged staff to use the electric car to travel to Rapid City and reminded people that use of the charging stations, here and in Rapid City, are free; owners must provide the adapter. He highlighted the new trash carts which were switched from electric power (which did not work well in winter) to compressed gas. He asked that anyone noting them speeding contact Facility Services through Roxanne.

Janette complemented Facility Services on the beautiful hanging baskets this summer.

Scott reported Ainsworth-Benning is removing equipment from the Staff parking lot, the space will be swept, and the parking lot open by the end of business on Friday.

The next meeting will be October 17 at 10 AM (place to be announced). Kristin moved and Scott seconded to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Shuck
President / Secretary pro tem of BHSU Staff Senate