



MINUTES AUGUST 12, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by past President Terry Pierce. Senators Present: Kathy Benard, Terri Blessent, Ann Courtney, Kevin Elrod, Tina Gregory, Jordan Harding, Michelle Hensley, Jerrica Lair, Diane Letner, Woody Lopez, Jeannice Parker, Terry Pierce, Tish Potter, Stephanie Willis, and Mary Wolfe. and. Absent were Carrol Bell, Brandi Boswell, and Dan Workman.

Also present were Jason Kegler, President of the Professional Staff, and Dr. Steve Erwin, Vice President of Student Life.

Terry Pierce received a plaque commemorating his service.

Past President Terry Pierce asked for nominations for a new slate of officers.

Terri Blessent was elected President.

Jeannice Parker was elected Vice President after a discussion concerning whether at-large members could hold office.

No nominations were made for Treasurer, so Mary Wolfe will continue in the position until a successor is appointed.

Ann Courtney was elected Secretary.

There are currently three open at-large seats.

The last meeting occurred on June 10th, 2020, via Microsoft TEAMS. The minutes from that meeting and the May 13th meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The regular account holds \$2,380 as of July 3rd and the Foundation account holds \$57.04, per Mary Wolfe.

Jason Kegler reported from the Professional Staff Senate. Their meetings are the first Wednesdays of each month at 2 pm.

Terri Blessent reported that WSU is considering combining the Professional and Support Staff Senates. The WSU provost expressed concerns about morale and suggested a focus on boosting morale without spending money.

Dr. Scott will begin meeting with USS President Terri Blessent in September.

Committee reports

- Elections, Ann Courtney: nothing to report.

- Public Relations, Ann Courtney: Terri will confer with Sam regarding options for the annual fall photo, to be taken prior to the September meeting.
- Welcoming Committee, Diane Letner: nothing to report.
- Parking, Tish Potter: nothing to report.
- Board of Governors, Michelle Hensley: nothing to report.
- Strategic Planning, Terri Blessent: Nothing to report.
- IT, Michelle Hensley: nothing to report.
- Campus Safety and Security, Betty Geier: some issues still needing resolution.
- USLCC, Terri Blessent: nothing to report.
- University Revenue Planning Committee, Terri Blessent: no changes as yet.

Old business

Woody Lopez asked about enrollment. Terri responded that the beginning of classes would tell us more. Woody noted that there would be a meeting on Thursday regarding whether football would be played or not. Kevin Elrod asked what policies were in place as yet regarding students testing positive for COVID-19. Dr. Steve Erwin noted that the University would follow Crawford County's policies for contact tracing. Procedures are already in place for quarantine and release. It is important to note that citizens of Kansas may opt out of the contact tracing process.

Jeannice Parker noted that multiple COVID-19 testing options are offered by the University. Dr. Erwin said that saliva tests are mandated for inhabitants of the Residence Halls and for the Greek housing residents.

Dr. Erwin also noted that we must protect health confidentiality in answering a question from Woody Lopez. He also reminded the group that controlling the infection with social distancing was very important. Kathy Benard asked how Crawford County got their information. Dr. Erwin responded that the testing locations report to the health department, but cases are allocated by residency, which could result in an appearance of an outbreak when in fact the illness was contracted elsewhere.

Diane Letner observed that BCBS was in negotiations to add helicopter emergency services to their offerings.

Terri Blessent adjourned the meeting at 2:10 pm.

Minutes provided by Ann Courtney, Secretary