
OPEN MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 15, 2021

Date: April 15, 2021

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: BlueJeans

Attendees: Katt Warner, Laura Meacham, Lee Anderson, Virginia Irintchev, Lauren Sanew, Sarah Gill, Tina May, Anna Ferreira, Jenny Taufa, Viola Pellissier, Janet Bicker, Sarah Jacobsen, Chynna Slocum, Vicki Camilo, Lana Reeves, Julia Bledsoe, Rachel Blackburn, Jackie Draper, Natalia Delaney, Jennie Allan, Cynthia Olivo, Chamaea Edwards, Renee Caudill, Jane Zhang, Samie Perez

“We May Encounter Many Defeats But We Must Not Be Defeated.” – Maya Angelou

1. Roll Call

- Julia Bledsoe, Chynna Slowcum, Rachel Blackburn, Sarah Gill, Katt Warner, and Tina May all present and accounted for.

2. Approve Minutes

- Julia made a call for a motion to approve the minutes. Sarah Jacobsen makes a motion to approve. Jackie Draper seconds. No discussion. Julia makes a call for a vote to approve. None opposed and no abstentions. March 2021 minutes approved.

3. Board Member Report

- **President’s Report – Julia Bledsoe**

- Julia shares briefly about meetings she has attended.
 - During the cabinet meeting Foundation gave a report and they are running a campaign for donations to Foundations as a deduction from your paycheck. Any amount helps and you can pick which account and/or scholarship you would like to donate to.
 - Melissa Deadmond has been working very hard to finalize TMCC’s Strategic Master Plan. We should be seeing this probably this summer.
- During the meeting with the President some things discussed were:
 - Looking at voluntary reduction in work schedules being considered for Classified employees but is highly improbable as it would ultimately affect pay. (It also affects how much money goes into your retirement as commented on by another Classified Staff later in the meeting.)
 - Talked a little about trying to put together a Classified Symposium this year. This will be discussed in more detail moving forward. But it is thought that besides maybe a couple of informational sessions we would maybe just have a Classified BBQ so everyone can get together and see each other. There is a Professional Development committee, but it is a bit different from when Cathy Brewster was here. We’ll be looking at ideas for possible Professional development classes.
 - Briefly discussed some fundraising ideas and that can be opened up for ideas.
 - Also discussed the return to work plan and hopefully the last email that went out from the President has cleared up any confusion that there was about returning to work.

- Fiscal Sustainability Committee Meeting was cancelled for this month. The next meetings are May 27, June 24, and July 22, 2021. It remains to be seen whether or not Julia will be volunteering.
 - Tomorrow there is a special Board of Regents meeting at 1:00 pm. Aside from some other items on the agenda it seems that the primary discussion is going to be surrounding the legislative report and the budget update.
- **Vice President's Report – Chynna Slowcum**
 - Employee of the Month, Hans Meadows received the recognition for January 2021 and Jean Lampson received the recognition for February 2021.
 - Employee of the Year, nominations close end of day tomorrow (4/16). 2 nominations have been submitted so far. Please get yours in if you have been thinking about it and haven't done so. The nominees and winner will be announced during the Presidents End-of-Year Presentation in May, which will be sent out as a youtube video this year.
 - **Secretary's Report – Katt Warner**
 - No Report - Katt announced to please use the link available in the chat for the attendees google sign in form.
 - **Treasurer's Report – Sarah Gill**
 - \$1555.89 Employee Recognition
 - \$1618.50 Emergency Loans
 - \$5924.41 Operating
 - * \$500.00 from Operating will go to Foundation Account (Faculty Education for Classified Staff). After merging our book scholarship with Foundations, we agreed to either transfer \$500 or 10% of our fundraising efforts fiscally to the Faculty Education account. There has been no fundraising so we will transfer the \$500. There has been one Classified Employee who has applied for this and was awarded \$100 for book reimbursement.
 - The Council does plan to market the scholarship twice a year, once each semester, possibly even more. The scholarship for fall is going to open August 1st and will be open for 1 month so if any Classified staff member who is taking a class would like to utilize this, please remember that we have this resource available. Please watch for upcoming announcements and emails with more information and links to the application.
 - Since Dawn Ingraham who was the Chair for the Emergency Loan Committee has retired, we have found a new Chair, Scottie Lockrem, who has served on the Emergency Loan committee for quite some time and was happy to move into the chair role. We also brought on board, Krystyna Sowkowski, from Foundation Office and Jackie Draper, from the Scheduling Office.
 - **Hospitality Report – Rachel Blackburn**
 - No Report.
 - **NSHE Representative Report – Tina May**
 - No Report. There will not be another meeting until later this month.
 - There will be a special Board of Regents meeting, running on April 16, 2021 at 1:00 pm. There will be an email announcement with a link to the meeting.

4. **Returning to Campus**

- **Stage 3 – How is the transition for you**
 - Julia asks if there are any questions or concerns that need to be taken to leadership.
 - Some questions raised were: what has been done by HVAC to comply with the CDC recommendations? What kind of documentation has been kept? What about offices with no windows or airflow?

- Julia says that this concern will be taken to the COVID Response Team meeting today.
- Julia asks if there are any questions about individual plans for returning to work.
 1. A question was asked about the survey for continuing to work remotely.
 2. Julia responds that this is something that is being explored. Classified Council did take it to the President.
 3. Another Classified employee shared some of the information they had learned about this topic. We are being asked to take a look at this. Different schools and policies are being looked at that are developing. NSHE is developing a policy as well. So we should be hearing more about this.
 4. Until there is a policy in place for remote working all considerations are to go through HR and will be only for ADA or FMLA on a case by case basis. You can find this link to apply on the HR webpage.
- Homecoming – Questions about return
 - The question was asked, what is the difference between Stage 3 and Homecoming. Stage 3 is still working with lowered occupancy restrictions, social distancing, masks, etc. and Homecoming is without restrictions. At this point it is unclear if masks will be required with Homecoming. Whatever the new “normal” looks like.
 - Julia says there has been no firm decision, but says it is possible that July 1, 2021 could be a potential homecoming return date.

5. **Classified Council Elections / Nominations**

- An email announcement was sent out today with a link for nominations for Classified Council Officers. At this point we have had 12 nominations. We are still looking for an NSHE Classified representative. The term runs from January – December. We would like to get the NSHE rep on board with Classified Council board so they can transition into the position this upcoming November-December.

6. **Classified BBQ (No Symposium FY21)**

- Julia makes the statement that the thought is that Classified Council has a BBQ in lieu of a Symposium this year. Thoughts, ideas, suggestions, dates, etc.? No one comments.
 - Julia asks for a show of hands or typing “Aye” in the chat box for all those in favor. LOTS of “aye’s” come in.
 - One comment was that we are all yearning for interaction, and so they thought that it’s a great idea and way to connect again.
 - Another comment was to have the BBQ midweek due to the possibility of Furloughs continuing past June. Most people like to take their furlough days at week end or week beginning.
 - Julia says mid-week is an option.
 - Julia asks if it might be beneficial to send out some type of survey or questionnaire to gather more information.

7. **Recipe Book – Opportunity to have some Recipe’s featured at TMCC’s café Verde (email invitation to participate went out this morning to ALLMAILBOXES)**

- Tina shares that we are looking for submissions for the cookbook. We have only received a couple.
- We contacted Café Verde to see if they would be interested in featuring some of the recipes as long as they have the ingredients for it.

8. **Book Scholarship Reminder**

- This was previously discussed by Sarah Gill. Sarah will check with Becky Josten to see who the scholarship is available to.

9. **Announcements**

- If anyone has any questions, or concern for any reason; or if you would like to serve, please reach out, classifiedcouncil@tmcc.edu

10. **New Business**

- Someone asked about information regarding the bookstore transition from Follett to Barnes and Noble. Book orders need to be placed.

11. **Next Meeting May 20, 2021, 1:00pm**

Adjourn 1:54 pm