

# Staff Senate

## Minutes

01/29/2020 | 3:00 PM | UC 307

### Call to Order

Lorneth called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm.

### Approval of Today's Agenda

Senator Kelly motioned to approve, Senator Jo seconded motion, Agenda passed.

### Presidents Report

- No Report Given

### Treasurer's Report

- No Report Given

### Old Business

- **Help an Elf Update**
  - Senator Kelly Carpenter received a very nice thank you card for our efforts with Help an Elf.

### New Business

- **Special Guest: Isaiah Hurtado**  
Coordinator of Student Wellness and Prevention
  - Due to new state legislation in Amendment 1, state institutions must have a twostep suicide prevention plan.
    - Step 1: Create the plan for the institution
    - Step 2: Disseminate the plan to all institution constituents, staff, students, faculty, etc.
  - Plan is being presented to Staff Senate before dissemination to university public, though it is already published on the Health and Counseling website: <https://apsu.edu/health-and-counseling/suicide-prevention>
  - Mr. Hurtado outlined the plan which contains 3 main components:
    - Prevention
    - Intervention
    - Postvention
    - He referred us to the website for further details on the three components.
- Senator Jo made sure we were aware of the reporting form to report instances where we think someone may be considering suicide.
- Question/Answer Session:

## **Minutes**

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- Senator Michele: How many 1<sup>st</sup> time freshman deal with suicide related issues?
  - Senator Jo stated her office could probably pull these statistics.
  - Mr. Hurtado stated the national average is that 1 in 6 people are affected by suicide.
- President Lorneth: What are the most common issues that our students face:
  - Dr. Rutter stated the most common issues they see regularly are: anxiety, depression, and stress.
- Mr. Hurtado left his cards and “Let’s Talk” posters for the senate to take.
- **Staff Senate VP Nominations**
  - Senator Kelly moved to open the floor for discussion about VP nominations, Senator Jo seconded. Floor was open for discussion.
    - President Lorneth brought up the time concern for the position with no compensation since the VP position roles into the President role.
    - Senator Kelly asked if there were any concerns beyond the time commitment or rolling to president. None were noted.
    - Several Senators voiced concerns of a lack of understanding on what the position entailed but an understanding of a major time commitment beyond their regular jobs with no compensation.
    - Senator Spearman discussed the role of the VP and President and what to expect of the position if you were to take on the role.
  - Senator Spearman moved to open the floor for nominations for the VP, Senator Jo seconded. The floor was open for nominations.
    - No nominations were received.
    - President Lorneth suggested that if there were interest in the secretary role, Senator Megan would accept a nomination for VP.
    - Senator Megan explained the role of secretary.
    - Senator Hannah said she would be interested in the Secretary role.

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- Senator Megan moved to vacate her position as secretary. Senator Kelly seconded. Secretary position was vacated.
- ***Senator Kelly nominated Hannah as secretary, Senator Jo seconded. No discussion noted. President Lorneth called for a vote, which passed unanimously.***
- ***Senator Cody nominated Megan as VP, Senator Kelly seconded. No discussion noted. President Lorneth called for a vote, which passed unanimously.***
- **Staff Development Funds Discussion**
  - HR has asked the Staff Senate to oversee a pool of money to be utilized for staff professional development.
  - Senator Spearman expressed that she had a lot of questions and concerns about how the money would be disseminated since there is not standardize travel funds across the University for Staff.
  - Senator Cherylle asked a question of why you have to apply or who could apply since there is an unsaid policy that support staff can't travel for professional development.
  - Senator Hemmingway brought up the library has funding for professional development but it is only ever given to the faculty of the department.
  - Senator Phelps brought up the provision of giving funds to professional staff over support staff and how that would work since support staff are not allowed to travel because of overtime policies.
  - Senator Kelly brought up that we have two conversations occurring, one about the funding and one about policies and that we could look to other resources that our there to guide us in dissemination of funding for the money and perhaps form a committee to create the policies.
  - Senator Spearman brought up the inequity of travel across campus and roles and that there is a conversation that needs to be had about that as well. President Lorneth said she would speak with LaNeeca about this.

## University Standing Committee Reports

- No Reports Given

## Staff Senate Committee Selection

- Awards Committee

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- Senator Jo will be meeting with HR
- Constitution and Bylaws Committee
  - President Lorneth will be meeting with the committee soon to review
- PeayBay Committee
  - President Lorneth will reach out to Shannon Manly
- Social Responsibility Committee
  - Senator Kelly noted that the next event for the committee barring any unforeseen circumstance would be Plant the Campus Red
- Staff Appreciation Committee
  - President Lorneth and Senator Megan will be meeting to discuss as Megan transitions into VP role
- Strategic Planning Committee - NR
- Sustainability Committee
  - The committee is working to assist with the roll out of the EcoGovs project

## Department/Division Updates

- Senator Linares noted that funding for the Diversity Committee Professional Development Grant is due on 02/28/2020.

## Announcements

- **Next Meeting: 02/26/2020 | 3:00 pm | UC 307**

**Adjourn:** Senator Kelly made a motion to adjourn, Senator Cody seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 3:57 pm.

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