Meeting called to order: 9:01 a.m.

Present:  
Rebecca Carroll (ex officio)  
Anne-Marie Grayson  
Carol Lightle  
Rick Matthews  
Laura Mills  
Shelley Merrick  
Laura Pallini-Bolton  
Shannon Reddick  
Angela Storck  

Absent:  
Peggy Clifton  

Guests:  
David Carson  
Linda Bleicken  

Approval of the Minutes: Carol Lightle made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 5, 2014 council meeting. Anne-Marie Grayson seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report
- Beginning Balance: $1,709.52
- Earnings: $0.00
- Pay Outs: $350.00 (textbook scholarships)
- Current Balance: $1,359.52

Committee Reports
Communications Committee
- No report
- Communications need to go out to all staff about elections, cupcake sale, staff assembly, and picnic.

Elections Committee
- The committee is preparing to launch nominations to fill council positions for those rolling off.
- Tuesday, March 11 - the process will be set up and sent out.
- April 8 - elections nominations will open. We will utilize 1 week to confirm interest/intent.
- The elections process will be discussed in more detail at the May 1 staff assembly, and will formally take place after the assembly.
- We will incorporate the bylaws amendment voting onto the elections ballot.

Fundraising Committee
- The committee is moving forward with the Gigi’s cupcakes sale.
- Gigi’s is preparing and will provide the poster for distribution.
- Rick is creating the online order form.
- There will be a Google doc posted for volunteer sign up.
- Sales will take place in the Student Union Lobby on April 14, 16, 22-24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- A request was made to add the advertisement to the parent newsletter.
• Rick posed questions about what the council can do in terms of fund raising and textbook scholarships. Should we provide bigger scholarships or more scholarships provided that funds are available? Should we maintain a certain reserve?
• The council wants to do more fundraising to beef up the text book scholarship, support the staff development and welfare committee, increase the employee hardship fund, potentially provide text book scholarships for dependents, and begin donating to the commitment fund as funds are available.

Outreach/Special Events Committee
• The committee participated in Treasure Savannah.
• We need to determine the when and where of picnic on the lawn. The beginning of June was proposed.
• Suggestions were made to provide fans to push the air around and provide more canopies to tent the eating areas.
• Details will be provided by Shelley when available.

Staff Development and Welfare Committee
• The committee is looking for folks to do online video classes that would be helpful.
• We need to look into providing development options for staff that are more helpful and convenient.

Old Business
• Bylaws review
  • Laura Mills raised a question as to why the stipulation was taken out of the bylaws that required textbook scholarship recipients to serve on a committee.
  • Go through the bylaws and proof read. Identify any problems.
  • Feedback presented at the meeting:
    • Article 1 – streamline redundant language.
    • Article 2 – proposed change to 1 representative from each area and at-large members (no more than 3 from one area).
    • Article 3, Item 11 – Do we have to keep it as historical information or can we take it out/update it? Rebecca recommended that we clarify this point with Lee Davis.
    • Article 6 – no section C. Currently lists B then D.
    • Article 6, D, 3 duties of the secretary – B and C need to be combined into one item.
    • Appendix A – changing the bylaws to reflect at large members – would we still limit so that only one person can serve from a particular office? How would that elected.
    • Appendix B - dates for when the bylaws are updated.
    • Special elections in the event of vacancies – if someone comes into a term with less than 6 months remaining, they are eligible for a second term.
    • Proposed change so that the elected council members are the sole body for approving changes to the bylaws.
    • Remove textbook scholarship stipulations from the bylaws.
  • If there is any other questionable language, please pass information on to Rick Matthews by Friday afternoon.
• Spring Assembly – May 1
  • Is it a forum for questions and comments? Yes, but people rarely use it.
  • We will work with the president’s catering fund to get light refreshments.
  • We will look at hosting the assembly in the Ballroom of the Student Union or the Ogeechee Theater.
• Faculty and staff compensation study
  • Consultant met with President’s Cabinet last week. We should have feedback by the end of April. The information will be presented to President’s Cabinet and information will be brought back when a plan of action is established.
• Thank you picnic on the lawn
  • We need to determine the when and where of picnic on the lawn. The beginning of June was proposed.
  • Suggestions were made to provide fans to push the air around and provide more canopies to tent the eating areas.
  • Details will be provided by Shelley when available.
• Possible updates to USG TAP policies
  • No updates as of yet as to the potential elimination of the online policy differential.
  • The topic of dependent benefits/coverage is also being discussed.
  • There is currently no deadline/timeline, but it is on the Chancellor’s radar.

New Business
• Guest: David Carson to discuss Council fundraising initiatives, ideas and proposals
  • The council should consider how much the institution is spending in order for the council to raise money. Do we spend more than we make?
  • Suggestion – work concession stands at Armstrong athletic events; sporting events such as basketball and volleyball were recommended. Basketball tournaments for high schools sell out which means a large amount of money in a short span of time.
  • Suggestion – obtain gift card/certificate donations from local businesses and raffle those donations. A silent auction was also mentioned.
  • The Gigi’s cupcakes fundraiser is perfectly fine and does not conflict with our Sodexo contracts.

Motion to adjourn meeting: Shannon Reddick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All seconded and passed the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:44 a.m.