

UNION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes
November 30, 2022

Members Present: Bella Armenta, Jenny Kernodle, JT Turner, David Munoz-Sarabia, Daisy Pulliam, Santana Pardo, Chloe Baars (sub for Em Stuber), David Brady, James Parrish, Jeffrey Britain, Michael Savoie, Christa Coffey, Kaili Fatta, Brittany Landau, Wendy Denman, Pam McDonald, Mike Flores, Richards Owens, Molly Orr.

Members Not Present: Satish Devarasetty, Grace Moore, Brady Groppi, Kristina Sesay

UBD Chair, Bella Armenta, called the meeting to order at 11:49am.

Bella started the meeting with the approval of the October 19, 2022, Meeting Minutes. Christa Coffey moved for the minutes to be approved, and Jeffrey Britain seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved with unanimous with a show of hands.

Bella then moved into Area Representative Reports.

Area Representative Reports

Facilities

Mike Flores showed a presentation that included the new graphics that have been installed for Eagle Post. Signage will be updated and replaced with a monitor that will show hours, etc. The project is on track for the first phase to be completed during winter break.

Mike also reported on the new sliding doors that were replaced in the Chat area. The doors were replaced last week before the Thanksgiving break. The replacement doors have a new frame for the sliding doors that no longer have rolling casters on the bottom. The new doors are clear and show off the inside of the Chat area. The doors will remain clear, not frosted, but Dining Services has a creative that will be put up on the doors in the future.

Mike reported that the video display units in the Union halls have been replaced with 26 monitors that make up four (4) wall units.

Mike's report also included an update on the Syndicate TVs. The Syndicate is a popular space from noon till midnight with students watching various shows and using the monitors with their gaming devices. Soccer has been very popular with the students. The side booths have been updated with new gaming switcher connectors and the billiard tables are being updated and maintained as needed.

Mike also reported that the Condom Club vending machine has been moved to a new location. SGA heard concerns about the location it was in and therefore asked if it could be moved to a more private area. The machine has been moved to the area in front of the ESSC.

Mike's presentation also included an update on the Union's Hours of Operation for December and January. Wendy explained that there are lesser hours in December because the semester has ended and in January the hours will be 8am to 5pm until we are closer to the start of the semester.

Finance

Wendy Denman provided an update on behalf of Kristina Sesay who could not be at the meeting. Wendy reported that we are about half way through the year and fairly on track and looking good on expenses to date.

UPC, Union Programs & Arts

Molly Orr reported that events are wrapping up and during finals week there will be study rooms available. Union rooms 338 and 339 will be study rooms from December 10th through the 15th and will be open when the Union is open for pop-in studying. Molly advised that breakfast will be available on December 10th at 9:00pm and it will include vegan options. The UPC last event is on December 12th and 13th from 10:00am to 2:00pm. The event is a stress event using dogs, massage, yoga and food.

Molly reported that they are finalizing the events for Spring semester and that there will be no extended hours in the Syndicate during finals week.

Conference & Event Services

Richard Owens reported that from today, November 30th to Reading Day, there are 270 reservations for events which is a significant increase over last year. He reported that events are varied but include holiday parties.

Executive Director's Report

Wendy Denman provided a detailed presentation on a Fee Increase Proposal. The presentation included the Texas Education Code: Union Fee Statute, a current fee breakdown on enrollment, a revenue review, some of the Union operating and maintenance expenses, as well as the impact on the budget. The proposal is to ask for an increase of \$1 per student, per semester which would go into effect the Fall Semester of 2023. Wendy suggested that the board members discuss this with their constituents and if they would like for her to give a presentation to their groups to please let her know. Wendy provided that the most obvious impact if the increase is not approved is that at some point while the reserves are healthy now, they won't last forever, and we would not be able to sustain. She also reported that there will be an increase in rental fees which are being reviewed now.

The fee increase request process includes presentation and approval from the Union Board of Directors, approval from upper administration, submission to Tuition and Fee Committee, potential presentations to the committee, presentations to the Vice President of Finance and the Provost, and final submission to the Board of Regents for approval.

Chair and Vice Chair Report

Bella stated she had nothing to report.

Action Items

There were no action items.

Other Matters/Announcements

The next meeting will be January 18, 2023 at 11:30 a.m. in the Union Boardroom #401.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27pm.

Respectfully submitted by Pam McDonald