



THE UNIVERSITY *of* NEW ORLEANS

STAFF COUNCIL

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Thursday, November 21, 2019
UC 208 at 10:00am

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- I. Call to Order: 10:02 A.M. by Kassie Thibodeaux, Staff Council President
- II. Approval of Minutes: Kassie Thibodeaux stated that the minutes for the September & October would be posted shortly.
- III. Executive Committee Reports
 - a. President - Kassie Thibodeaux: no report
 - b. Vice-President: vacant
 - c. Treasurer: Carol Mitton will continue to act as treasurer. She gave this information to Kassie Thibodeaux to report.
Credit Union Balance - \$5.42
General Fund - \$2750.00
Foundation spending balance - \$366.42
 - d. Recording Secretary: no report.
 - e. Corresponding Secretary: vacant
- IV. Committee Reports
 - a. Membership/Elections Committee: no report
 - b. Staff Concerns Committee:

A staff member was concerned about the trash and leaves still littering sidewalks and in front of buildings. Donald Winterton, the new Facility Services director had provided this information:
Most of the sweeping has been contracted out. There are 3 or 4 of the original crew. Facility Services has specific duties. Blow off entrances, Daily garbage pickup for 180 acres, which involves about 300 lbs of loose trash a week. Handling the 600+ events a year. Cleanup in the Lakefront Arena parking area. Trimming the 2000+ trees. Removing pallets and the half million lbs of ground waste.
Staff were reminded that there have been several wind events recently, as well as the seasonal leaf drop, so leaves and debris have been blown around more than usual.

- c. Events Committee: Emails about the Door Decorating contest will be sent out, and submission forms provided to register your door. The winner will be announced on the December 19 meeting.
- d. Awards Committee: no report

V. New Business – No report

VI. Guest Speaker – Valic presented on Social Security and Retirement: Most people do not receive the retirement benefits they think they will get. Each individual should meet personally with a retirement specialist to determine their best action plan, as many things might affect their retirement. A few key points:

You can only get Social Security benefits if you have worked at least 10 years, or 40 quarters. Since the US average life expectancy is increasing, the age that you can receive your Social Security benefits is being pushed later for younger generations. Your retirement through UNO (ORP, Teacher’s) will affect your Social Security. Though 67% of people have plans to offset their retirement shortage by working through their retirement, only 27% were able to work - you cannot depend on being able to work.

Know Your Numbers. Meet with a retirement specialist to figure out the time horizon for retirement (sometimes waiting later to retire isn’t the best option), how much you should be getting, and determine your financial strategy, such as which investments to prioritize, in order to “bridge the gap” between what you will get, and what you will need.

VII. Old Business – N/A

VIII. Next Meeting – Thursday, December 18, 2019. President Nicklow will be speaking.

IX. Adjourn at 10:45 a.m.

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