Meeting was called to order by Chair Jaime Davis at 2pm.
I. General Announcements
   • Reminder: Regents Outstanding Employee Awards nominations. Form and three letters of support are due by January 31 – ut.austin.roea@austin.utexas.edu. Contact Jeannie Farahnak with questions.
   • 10-minute Heart Walk: Friday, February 9th at 10 a.m.
     i. Starting points: Cypress Bend Café, Littlefield Patio Café, or PRC Commons Patio.
     ii. Register at UTLearn – http://utlearn.utexas.edu

II. Guest Speaker: Ms. Adrienne Howarth-Moore, Director of Human Resources
   • HR is moving to UTA (1616 Guadalupe)
     i. Staff move is expected to take place February 5th - 9th.
     ii. HR will have training space in the basement and will have staff and department services on floors 1, 2, and 3. Primary HR contacts (Benefits, SWS, Conflict Resolution, etc.) will be on the 3rd floor.
     iii. Exceptions: HRSS will remain in the Facilities Complex Building and the Occupational Health Program (OHP) will move to SSB 3.302.
   • HealthPoint EAP is now offering Video Counseling.
   • Update on changes to the Staff Education Benefit (SEB).
     i. UT System is urging our campus to enact recommended changes to the SEB program to ensure it complies with state statutes. When approved:
        1. Graduate courses up to the IRS limit of $5250 will no longer be taxed (disclosure: tax laws are subject to change).
        2. Online courses in the UT Austin course schedule will become eligible.
        3. Dissertation courses ending in 99 will become SEB eligible.
     ii. Supervisor verification steps will be added:
        1. Course and/or degree plan has a nexus to your current or future employment with UT Austin.
        2. Employees participating in the SEB are expected to maintain positive work performance and have a Meets Expectations rating or higher on their annual performance review.
        3. Leave of Absence (LOA) status and/or separation status are verified. If you leave employment with the University or take a leave of absence then you cannot use the SEB.
     iii. We average about 175 staffers a year that use the SEB at a cost of $840,000 to the University.
   • Future invite: Adrienne Howarth-Moore will be invited back to discuss the SEB and answer more questions.

III. Guest Speaker: Mr. Bobby Stone, Director of Parking and Transportation Services
   • Overview of Parking and Transportation Services (PTS) and parking on campus.
     i. PTS is an auxiliary unit and is self-funded.
     ii. PTS is required to return $1.7 million annually to the University from funds collected.
     iii. PTS operates SureWalk and SureRide with no financial assistance from the University.
iv. There is immediate space and permits are available in four parking garages: Manor, Trinity, East Campus, and Guadalupe. *Note that Manor garage is discounted at $464 a year and the East Campus Garage is discounted at $280 a year.

- Parking Permit Pricing: permit holders can anticipate a slight uptick in the annual cost of their parking permits. As an example, the “A” permit will increase from $160 to $166 a year.
- Bike-Share program: partnership with B-Cycle is in progress: https://austinbcycle.com/.
- Parking Technology: License plate scanning tools are being used to crackdown on individuals who are parking illegally on campus. They are also being used to curb individuals who leave their cars in campus garages for extended periods of time (in some cases over the weekend or the whole week) and then claim to have lost their ticket and only pay $29.

- Waitlists
  i. The waitlist exists to help PTS manage a limited resource (16,000 parking spaces for a campus population of 70,000 staff, faculty, and students).
  ii. Faculty have priority placement for permits. However, faculty have always had priority.
  iii. There was an error in the management of the waitlists which allowed people to slip out of the top 50 spots on the waitlist, but that has since been corrected.
  iv. As of two years ago, job title is used to help determine a person’s waitlist placement. Salary is only used if there is no other way to decide the priority.
  v. Garages used to have first come/first serve approach.
  vi. Evaluating the question of whether to continue the practice of ranking staff.
     1. Parking Committee is having discussions on this topic and welcome staff input and perspective on the waitlist.

- Future invite: Bobby Stone will be invited back to discuss parking on campus and answer more questions.

IV. Chair’s Report
- Draft of annual committee report is due in February. Written reports due in March and will be sent to the President’s Office for their review.
- There will be a work-related book club for Staff Council Representatives starting in February. If you are interested in participating, please complete the survey.

V. Vice-Chair’s Report
- Officers met with Darrell Bazzell, CFO, to discuss bylaws.
- Officers met with Debra Kress, AVP of HR, to discuss the Professional Development Grant.

VI. Committee Updates
- Issues
  i. Parking is the most popular topic.
  ii. Working on signage for the Turtle Pond.
- Bylaws
i. Making bylaws user-friendly.
ii. Caroline will share (via email) proposed Bylaws changes to all Staff Council members.

VII. New business and announcements:
- Suspend bylaws to open nominations for Officer Positions. Passed
- Job descriptions can be found on the Staff Council wiki. Nominations should be sent to elections@utsc.utexas.edu.
- Move March 15 meeting to the 22nd. Passed

Minutes Approved: February 15, 2018

Ana Aguilar
Recording Secretary