

# LSU | Staff Senate

## MEETING MINUTES

August 19, 2020

President Jonathan Levesque presided over the August 19, 2020, Staff Senate meeting held by Zoom Video Conferencing at 10:30 a.m.

### Executive/Administrative/Managerial

A – Reonas, Barbara ('21)  
P – Tammy Millican ('23)

### Professional/Non-Faculty

P – Aslin, Jessica ('21)

P – Baldrige, Samantha ('21)  
P – Bonner, Amber ('21)  
P – Dawan, Hope ('21)  
P- Henry, Rachel ('21)  
P – Lane, Madison ('21)  
P – Olson, Darcee ('21)  
P – Garner, Karen ('22)  
P – Herman, Catherine  
P – Holstein, Lindsey ('22)  
P – Lee, Mark ('22)  
P – Levesque, Jonathan ('22)  
P – Nickerson, Jon ('22)  
P – Roth, Nicole ('22)  
P – Clemmons, Jill ('23)  
P – Kimmell, Alyssa ('23)  
P – Harb, Ryan ('23)  
P – Lewis, John ('23)  
P – Marrero, Ali ('23)  
Pr- Sansoni, Gerald ('23)  
P – Shows, Haley ('23)  
P – Slocum, Jenee ('23)  
A – Stone, Megan ('23)  
P – Wilson, Derek ('23)

### Service/Maintenance

### Skilled Crafts

P – Corbitt, Brent ('22)

### Technical/Paraprofessional

A – Matkovic, Igor ('23)

### Clerical/Secretarial

P – Salesneves, Sarah ('22)  
P – Salvadras, Amber ('22)

A – Indicates Absent

P – Indicates Present

Pr – Indicates Proxy

## **GUESTS:**

Mike Harris, Parking & Transportation Services  
Josh Galasso, Parking & Transportation Services  
Kevin Yau, College of Humanities & Social Sciences  
Sidney Tauzin, Office of the University Registrar

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Jonathan Levesque at 10:30 a.m.

## **ATTENDANCE**

There was a quorum with one proxy noted.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Senator Amber Bonner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – July 15, 2020, Staff Senate Meeting**

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Past-President Rachel Henry. The motion, seconded by Treasurer Catherine Herman, carried.

## **GUEST SPEAKER – MIKE HARRIS AND JOSH GALASSO, PARKING & TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

President Jonathan Levesque announced that the meeting today will be focused on Parking and the Mobility Implementation Plan. He introduced Mike Harris who is the Director of Parking and Transportation Services and Josh Galasso who is their Program Manager.

Mike Harris thanked the Staff Senate for the invitation to speak today. He wanted to mention some initiatives that they are working on.

For the gate project, they have installed 81 gates on campus over the summer. They are in trouble shooting mode as they make sure that all of the access devices are working and that the automatic up and down features are functioning properly. Everyone was encouraged to pick up their parking devices if they have not done so already.

In the next couple of years, the actual access device will be programmed in each employee's parking permit hang tag. Access to the gates also helps track percentage of utilization for the lots on campus which helps ensure that the right number of employees parking in those lots are sufficient.

New Parking Meters were also installed over the summer. There are 8 Visitor Lots on campus including the LSU Union Garage for a total of 643 visitor parking spaces on campus which will be paid by license plate instead of space number called Pay by Plate. With the start of school, the Tiger Trails transit system will be operating 22 busses on 11 routes to assist with transportation needs.

With the new online registration system, people who register for a tag will be required to use their license plate number to help with collecting clean data. In the past, the data collected by parking was not updated when vehicles and license plate numbers changed. With the upkeep of clean data, it will help us to move to a License Plate Recognition (LPR) system which will eventually be your access on campus. A permit hang tag would no longer be needed and would save the university over \$100,000 in cost. Anything we can save will help with not raising parking prices in the future.

The Mobility Implementation Plan is a very long strategic effort that could take up to 10-15 years to implement. This plan is sub set of LSU's Master Plan for mobility and is a very good plan for LSU. Since this is a long term plan, they have plans for the short term.

Everything depends on the variables such as growth, new construction on campus (when and where), and permit sales. Permit sales is where revenue is derived. Currently, permit sales are down about 42% from this time last year. That's equals to well over 2 million dollars that they don't have this year. COVID played a part in that as students are learning remotely and employees who are still working remotely have not bought a tag as of yet. The demand is lower then what it would have been in a normal fall semester.

As they are looking at fall 2021, Harris envisions a 5 tier parking plan which would be the reserved gated lot permit (C), core parking permit (C), outside of the core parking permit (B), free parking permit (A), and the park and geaux permit which would be the cheapest parking plan and would be located off of Skip Berman Drive. The core zone may not happen for another 2 years. The park and geaux permit will be offered in the fall of 2021.

With the new Residential Halls coming online in the greenhouse area. Those halls will offer 900 beds which equates to 700 vehicles (about 70% will bring their vehicles). The 700 parking spaces that will be needed. They plan on building some parking in that area which will yield about 100 spots. They looked at the commuter lot on Highland and South Campus Drive which provides about 500 spots, so that lot will be converted into a residential parking lot as it is the closest lot to the greenhouse area. Those commuter parkers will be pushed further west so the park and geaux would be an option for them. Shuttle service would be provided at the park and geaux lot to the LSU Student Union back parking lot which would be converted as a turnaround Hub. Those 50 or so permits that park in that lot will be given priority for a "C" lot in that area or may park in the garage.

Harris mentioned the parking permit cost over the next 2-3 years. The reserved gated lot permit (C) would go from \$550 - \$600, the core parking permit (C) would cost about \$375 - \$400, the outside of the core parking permit (B) would cost \$275 - \$300, the free parking permit (A) would cost \$75 - \$100, and the park and geaux permit would cost \$50 - \$75.

Josh Galasso mentioned that they will be rolling out with a comprehensive customer service program. They want to increase the accountability with employees. They are also working on some comprehensive communication and public relations strategies for the department as they communicate some of these changes that are coming down the line and how it may affect them.

They are creating a general information video tailored to new employees so that they are informed of their parking options. That goal is to one day create somewhat of a virtual training system that will assist those new employees in discovering all of their mobility options on campus. They want to also educate existing employees of the Mobility Implementation Plan and how it will affect their parking and transportation experience.

They are also working on COVID related items and how it may affect their commute to campus. They recently developed a COVID transportation video that they will be releasing within the next couple weeks which gives an overview of the transportation system and educate how COVID is going to impact that this year. As well as mention prevention and the safety protocols that have been put in place. The main goal is to educate and motivate as they create a safer more efficient transportation model on campus. They want to promote alternative transportation options so they can reward employees for developing and implementing positive sustainability habits. He encouraged everyone to review the Mobility Implementation Plan through its entirety.

Galasso mentioned that they have created an accountability program as it relates to the Tiger Trail system. They understand that there has been some problems in the past and they want to address them. They encouraged feedback whether good or bad so that service can be addressed.

Q: As mentioned this is a 10 -15 year plan, where can we find the goals that will implemented from year to year?

A: They will have the Mobility Implementation Plan on their website which outlines what will be happening in the coming year. This will be updated as we go since things may change as supply and demand with variables that will need to be factored in.

Q: When changes are made to the Mobility Implementation Plan, who makes those decisions and is their staff representation?

A: The plan is in place but it may need some adjusting due to the needs of the university. If changes are made, it may start with Planning, Design and Construction because they are the ones who pull all the planning together. Then it would go to the units it would effect.

Q: Will a pedestrian bridge be added to the intersection of Nicholson and South Stadium.

A: Planning, Design and Construction would be in charge of that type of project.

Q: Regarding the permits and license tag recognition, what if they use a different car.

A: On the main parking website, there will be a link to access each individual's parking account which can be updated daily.

Q: What is the ultimate goal of the parking plan and why have we made such a move for change?

A: Growth. As we grow it creates change. If we continue to grow there will be changes since the supply and demand is changing.

Q: Can someone upload multiple plates for spouse's vehicle?

A: Yes but only one vehicle can be on campus at a time.

Q: Is there room for expansion once the current plan runs out of room?

A: The plan is good for up to 40,000 people beyond that we would have to look at vertical parking (garages).

Q: How are we evaluating the Bike Share Program and will there be any changes to that program?

A: That program is run by the city and exported on campus for availability. There is a website that tracks those bikes as to how far they go and how often they are used. They will be rolling out some new bike models to handle the wear and tear. They started with 500 bikes but are now down to about 150 bikes available. The use of the Bike Share Program increased during COVID. More bikes and a new payment plan will be rolling out soon.

Q: Will there be more bike parking racks?

A: Locations on campus are being identified to have those installed.

Q: What are the immediate efforts that are being made to mitigate parking spots being moved from certain parking zones? There seems to be an erosion of "B" parking when "C" parking has to move on campus.

A: With the visitor lot by Academic Affairs, there was some "C" parking overflow that was moved to "B" parking by the Music and Dramatic Arts Building. They wanted that lot to be a total visitor lot to make it cleaner. They are currently at about 70% purchased "B" parking permits.

Q: There is really no parking for "B" permit plans on the east side of campus, will there be an increase in busing transit to accommodate the loss of spaces.

A: There is a shuttle bus that comes from the UREC parking area. The bus system from the park and geaux lot will eventually run to the Union then to UREC and then back to the park and geaux lot, so that will give people an east/west thoroughfare.

Q: Will the fees change for those who have to move from the LSU Student Union "C" lot that is being converted for park and geaux to the garage?

A: Those who have that "C" permit for that lot is valid for the Union garage at no cost at all through the spring. For the fall, those "C" permit holders will have priority for "C" lots close to that Union lot that was converted.

Q: If those "C" Lots are full, will the option to park close to the Union be further away with the same cost?

A: Those lots may not be full when the time comes to renew your permit. If not, the parking garage is the other option.

Guest, Kevin Yau would like to ask some questions about parking on campus.

Q: Will there be an equal amount of parking in the core of campus or are we going to have to park further away?

A: Every campus is asking people to park further away. The center part of campus becomes an administrative and classroom area. There will always be some parking but it will be very limited.

Q: Will there be a consistent time schedule for Tiger Trails?

A: There is a phone application that will give GPS coordinates for the buses.

Mike Harris and Josh Galasso thanked the Staff Senate for this time to speak with the group.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Jonathan Levesque reviewed relevant meetings in which he attended.

- July 28 – The Staff Senate Executive Committee met to assign members to committee and liaison appointments.
- August 6 – The Staff Senate Executive Committee met to prepare for the general meeting.
- August 12 – Attended the Council of Staff Advisors meeting to discuss how each campus is preparing for the fall semester.

President Levesque encouraged every Senator to attend the "Navigating the Roadmap" webinar scheduled today at 3:00 p.m.

President Levesque announced that, "on August 15<sup>th</sup> the staff at the Academic Center for Student-Athletes were informed of the passing of Kenneth Miles. Kenneth was the person who brought me to LSU and the reason I am before you today. His transformational style of

leadership completely revolutionized the ACSA turning us from perennial bottom dweller to a program of national renown and prestige.

When Kenneth arrived on campus in 2009, LSU only graduated 67% of its student-athletes. Through targeted hiring, long term planning, and a dogged commitment to student success our department was able to report a graduation success rate of 90% in 2018 and have maintained those numbers today.

Kenneth pushed us to be reflective thinkers and strategic in action. Our department plateaued in 2014 having 4 straight years of a GSR hovering in the low 80 percentage. Good enough for top 5 in the SEC.

Kenneth encouraged us to rethink our approach to Educational Support and he celebrated the ideas we presented to him. I often think about how easy it would have been to be happy where we were but Kenneth knew we could achieve greater goals.

Working for Kenneth was challenging, sometimes infuriating, and ultimately quite rewarding. I never saw him turn down a mentorship opportunity. He always approved professional development requests. Kenneth flat out demanded we expand our personal reach beyond the walls of our building.

In 2018, the Staff Senate held a general meeting inside the Louisiana State Capitol. Kenneth was a guest speaker and I was in my first full year as a senator. I will never forget when Kenneth approached me saying, "one day you are going to run this group". I was shocked, in fact I was terrified. He laughed and simply told me that when the opportunity comes, do NOT decline. I am very thankful to have worked for Kenneth. The power of his presence was great but his generosity was greater. Student-Athletes nationwide lost a powerful advocate and we at the ACSA lost a friend.

Please keep his mother and daughter, Alex in your thoughts and prayers."

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Staff Senate Constitution & Bylaws Amendments**

The LSU Staff Senate Constitutional and Bylaws Amendments have been sent to Interim President Galligan for final approval.

### **Staff Senate Budget**

Treasurer Catherine Herman provided a brief written financial report in the meeting packet for review by the full Senate.

The Staff Senate Gift Fund is in need of contributions. This fund was implemented to recognize certain events for Senators and former Senators that may happen throughout the year. The guidelines for giving were mentioned, and Senators were asked to donate \$20 each to the fund for the year.

## **Staff Senate Apparel**

Orders are open and are being taken for Senators to order Staff Senate apparel.

## **Senator's Photograph**

Senators should contact Melonie Milton to let her know if they would like to be included to take a professional photograph headshot.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Committee/Liaison Assignments**

The list of committee/liaison assignments was released by email in the meeting packet.

President Levesque encouraged committee chairs/co-chairs to begin scheduling meetings with members.

### **Future Guest Speakers**

Please submit any suggestions for future guest speakers to the Staff Senate Executive Committee.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Staff Senator Birthday**

Staff Senator August birthdays:

- Senator Brent Corbitt celebrated his birthday on August 13.
- Senator Gerald Sansoni will celebrate his birthday on August 26.
- Senator Derek Wilson will celebrate his birthday on August 28.
- Senator Madison Lane will celebrate her birthday on August 31.

Happy Birthday!

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** – With there being no more business, Treasurer Catherine Herman made a motion to adjourn. The motion, seconded by Past-President Rachel Henry, carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Jessica Aslin, Secretary

JA/mm