

Minutes

Members Present: Alesia Smith (chair), Angie Carter (deputy chair), Bruce Ransom, Harrison Pinckney, Jada Ford, La'Toya Maddox, Jerry Knighton, Lisa Robinson, Kaifa Roland, Kendra Stewart-Tillman, Oliver Myers, Pamela Hawthorne, and Rhondda Thomas

Members Absent: Adraine Jackson-Garner, Simeon Mckelvey, and Kellye Whitaker

Intern: Matthew Jordan

Guest: Tessa Byer

Call to Order: Alesia Smith (chair) called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from March 11, 2022:

Angie made a motion to approve the minutes from March 11, 2022, and it was seconded by Harrison. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

Financial Update:

The CBE budget for FY22 is \$6,200 from E&G, \$3,750 of Foundation funds, and \$1,500 for Kwanza vending (\$11,450 total). The current remaining budget is \$7,650.00. The Commission spent \$800 on entertainment for the Black History Month Luncheon. It was also agreed that the guest speaker for the Regina Thompson Lunch and Lecture Series will receive a sponsorship to attend the Faculty Writing Retreat.

Committee Reports:

- A. Faculty – The Faculty Writing Retreat will take place from May 18-20 at the Horseshoe Farm in Asheville, NC. Total cost per person will be \$675, which covers food and housing. There is a \$200 deposit to save their spot. The Commission on Latino Affairs has agreed to donate \$1,000 for sponsorships.
- B. Staff – Jerry met with Vivian to talk about the literacy program, which was put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will start again in the Fall semester shortly after Labor Day. There will be two classes per week, and they plan to release a media campaign soon to spread the word.
- C. Students – Black student focus groups went really well! Great turn out and effective feedback. Angie is working on IRB approval and creating a final report. The second round of focus groups is taking place on April 12th. Oliver requested access to the data for an upcoming grant he's working on. Angie agreed to request to do that from IRB.
- D. Alumni – No updates.
- E. Community – The Commission forwarded a letter of support for Dr. Thompson at the Foothills Clinic. Alesia is meeting with board members to review and investigate the issue before final decisions are made. The Commission is still planning to donate extra funds to the CAAAM.
- F. Events and Planning – The Black Community Forum is April 28th from 10:00am to 11:00am via Zoom. The graphic for this event is currently being reviewed before publication. This is an opportunity to provide Commissioners with feedback to enhance and address the Black experience. The Commission is also hosting a constituent lunch on May 6th. Currently finalizing

a location reservation. Finally, Angie met with commissioners on the Women's Commission and the Commission on Latino Affairs to discuss the potential of a joint forum at the beginning of each semester to meet their respective constituents.

- G. Marketing and Communication – No updates.
- H. Strategic Plan – No updates.

Old Business:

- A. Faculty Open Seat – There were three candidates for the open position. The votes favored Julian, who is now the newest faculty Commissioner!
- B. Staff Open Seat – Lisa made a motion to approve Pamela as the newest staff Commissioner, and it was seconded by Angie. The motion passed and Pamela was approved!
- C. The Scholarship Reparations Student Leadership Team – The team has met with student affairs and development to begin drafting a legal fund agreement. Once the fund agreement has been finalized, marketing and further development will take place. ELT members are confident that they can meet the 2025-2026 timeline proposed by students.

New Business

- A. Nominations for the Deputy Chair – Angie nominated Lisa Robinson and La'Toya Maddox. Both nominees accepted their nominations.
- B. Sponsorship for the Faculty Summer Retreat – In addition to the sponsorship for the Lunch and Lecture Series guest speaker, the Commission agreed to sponsor an additional two faculty members. Angie motioned to fully sponsor two faculty members in addition to the sponsorship for Dr. Phebe Davis-Culler, CBE Guest Lecturer for the Regina Thompson Lecture. The cost would be approximately \$2,025. Motion was seconded by Bruce. The motion was passed.
- C. CBSU Funding Request – CBSU is hosting an end-of-year cookout to celebrate their success. Jada requested a donation from the Commission for \$400. Angie made a motion to support, and Lisa seconded. The motion was passed.
- D. Donation to the Clemson Area African American Museum – Tabled until May meeting.
- E. Student Internship – Alesia proposed a continued student intern either for course credit or as a UPIC internship. There was significant interest in continuing this discussion and efforts will be made to recruit a student from the Commission's constituency.

Announcements

- A. Angie – Charlayne Hunter-Gault is coming to campus!
- B. Kendra – Donning of the Kente registration is open. The ceremony is on May 11th at 3:00pm. The Women's Roundtable is on April 20th and registration closed on April 13th.
- C. Rhondda – The Legacy Council and the Woodland Cemetery Project is sponsoring a Black Business Expo on May 21st. Registration is free!

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 12:51 p.m.