MINUTES OF THE MEETING
STAFF SENATE
Thursday, July 9, 2009
Morris Library, 226
Gaston College | Dallas, NC
Prepared by: Ben Dungan

Members Present: Dr. Karen Less, Kim Watson, Melanie Hoyle, Dr. Joe Keith, Vickie Hoke, Sherry Carpenter, Harriet Dameron, Doug Bradley, Diane Ward, Jody Mosteller, Ben Dungan

Members Absent: Teresa Griffin, Kim Beam, David Sparrow, Gwen Danner

Others Present: Dr. Linda Greer (Ex-officio)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Review/Approve Minutes from June Meeting

- Kim Watson called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. [NOTE: Pictures were taken of Staff Senate at 2:00 p.m. before meeting started.] The June minutes were unanimously approved with no changes.

Welcome to New Senators/Introductions

- Kim Watson welcomed new senators, and asked everyone in attendance to say their name and what department they work in.

II. OLD BUSINESS

Election Results / Statistics

- Ben Dungan reported that 49 staff members voted via online (SurveyMonkey) and two voted by paper ballot.
  - ACTION: Ben Dungan will find out how many staff members Gaston College has.

Constitution amendment update

- Kim Watson proposed we move ahead with the proposed change to the constitution (Article VII, Section 3). The new change would reflect Faculty Senate's version:
  - When a member fails to attend three consecutive regular Senate meetings for reasons other than from nine-months employment and/or official leave, and unless the individual sends a proxy/substitute, a vacancy will exist and the division represented by that individual will elect another representative to serve the remainder of that individual’s term of office.
• Dr. Karen Less proposed we also look at making two additional amendments:
  o Adding treasurer responsibilities to the duties of the Vice President / President Elect
  o Have senators elected at-large by the staff, and then having the senators elect the officers.

• ACTION: Dr. Linda Greer suggested proposed amendments to the Constitution are presented to Executive Council for approval.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Review proposed meeting schedule for 2009 – 2010

• Kim Watson passed out a proposed meeting schedule for 2009 - 10.
  o ACTION: Meetings will remain on the second Thursday of each month.

Committee Appointments

• Kim Watson shared with the Senators the various committees that they can serve on. Those committees are: Calendar, Staff Excellence Award, Social (internal), Staff Development Day (internal), Mini-Grant, Altrusa Award, Policy Review, and Nomination (internal).
  o ACTION: Dr. Greer suggested we send a committee sign-up sheet around at our next meeting.

• Some discussion came up whether Brian Shook should remain the representative for Staff Senate on the Mini-Grant committee, even though he is no longer a Senator.
  o ACTION: Kim Watson asked Ben Dungan to review previous months’ minutes to determine if the committee agreed Brian Shook could continue to serve as the Staff Senate Representative on the Mini-Grant committee although his term was ending in June 2009.

Board Meeting Report

• Dr. Joe Keith gave a report on the Board Meeting that was held on 6/22/09.
  o Continue with Early Childhood Center
    ▪ reduce staff
    ▪ 10% pay cut
    ▪ go from 12 to 10 months
    ▪ increase fees
  o Passed interim budget to keep the College open
  o State budget concerns: radio station, Textile Center, Huskin, etc.
  o Collaborative grant funded initiatives
    ▪ WIA Gaston Local Area Youth Employment Program - $388K
    ▪ Golden Leaf Opportunities for Work (GLOW) - 220K
    ▪ JobsNOW ‘12 in 6’ Initiative - $350K
  o Go ahead with Lincoln Campus basement/Lena Sue Beam renovation
  o Details were given on the 10-hr furlough
Ideas/activities for new year

- Kim Watson asked for ideas/activities that Staff Senate could participate in this year. She asked for the committee to email her with ideas and suggestions by July 29.

- Dr. Karen Less brought up the idea that Staff Senate could assist in the creation of a Staff Development Plan for all Gaston College staff. She noted that campus administration would have to support it for it to be effective.

Announcements

- Ben Dungan disseminated copies of the current staff senate & officers for 2009 - 2011.

- Kim Watson indicated she would be checking with human resources on name tags for new senators.

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.