Staff Senate Minutes

September 11, 2006


ABSENT: Queen Brown, Jeanine Carroll (excused), Sharon Chandler (excused), Renee Couch (excused), Marcia Donnelson, Corintha Duncan (excused), Linda Lett, Vanessa Stephens (excused), Michael Vaughn, George Wagner

President-elect Karen Sullivan called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. She mentioned that ETSU President Dr. Paul E. Stanton was to be our special guest, but he was called to Nashville.

President-elect Sullivan welcomed the new senators and reelected senators. They are: Dilawal Grewal, Judy Oaks, Kathy Smith, Jamie Simmons, Debbie Starnes, Robert Calkins and George Wagner. President-elect Sullivan thanked the past officers and presented them with certificates. Past President, Kathy Smith passed the gavel to Staff Senate’s new president Karen Sullivan.

President Sullivan conducted the Staff Senate Training by going over the history of the Senate, explained the purpose of each standing committees and the project committees. She also asked if the Chairpersons of the different committees wanted to stay anything concerning their last years work.

Senator Tim Dills conducted the election of New Officers. They are: Lisa Blackburn was elected as President-elect. Senator Amy Bowers was elected to serve as the Treasurer; Senator Pam White was elected as Secretary; and Senator Wanda Richardson was re-elected as Member-at-Large.

President Sullivan asked for a motion to approve minutes of August 11th. Senator Terry Nelson mentioned that President Stanton had not given approval for a payroll deduction of the Staff ring. With that one correction, Senator Kim Blevins moved the minutes be approved. Senator Lisa Blackburn seconded and the motion approved.

President Sullivan reported with the retirement of Senator Trillis McKee that the new Treasurer would give a report at the next Staff Senate meeting.
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Old Business:

Senator Terry Nelson reported on the status of the Staff Ring. He has talked with Mike Bettis of the Balfour Company. He reported that they had the design of the ring down to one design, the mold was being made and that the ring would be made with a lighter weight metal in order to keep the price down. The price of the ring would be around $199.00 depending on the number of order and the payroll deduction should be around $17 to $18 per month. Senator Nelson hoped to have the rest of the details worked out by the time of the Staff Convocation.

New Business:

1. Senator Carla Warner announced the Fall Family Festival would be October 28th from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. She circulated around a sign-up sheet for volunteers. She mentioned that this was the third year for the festival. Senator Kim Blevins asked about if emails requesting volunteers would be sent out.

2. Senator Lisa Blackburn, Chairperson of the Staff Convocation Committee gave an update on the convocation. The date will be Thursday, October 5th from 3:00 to 4:00 pm in the Culp auditorium. She gave a highlight of some of the things that will take place. One would be clips of the Staff Awards winners for the previous year; employee of the month and other pictures would be shown as the staff comes into the auditorium. She mentioned that the Bookstore has donated 350 pencils and that Dr. Bishop’s office has purchased 350 pencils to be given out as the Staff arrives. Mr. D. J. Jesse also donated notepads as well.

3. President Sullivan asked John Sanders, HR Director about the bonus money that would be distributed with the October paycheck. He explained that the $350.00 bonus was for everyone with 3 years of accredited service to the state and $500.00 bonus for everyone who was employed with the University as of June 30th. The total amount of the bonus would be $850.00.

President Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 3:30 pm. The next meeting will be Monday, October 9, 2006 in Meeting Room #6.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Bond, Secretary