

## **STAFF SENATE MINUTES**

### **September 17, 2015**

The Staff Senate General Meeting was called to order by the Staff Senate President Marie Testerman at 9:00 a.m. in the Hurlburt Combo Room.

Senators and Alternates Present: Marie Testerman, Karen Montgomery, Pam Duncan, Gloria Tuckwiller, Michael Roche

Advisors/Liaisons Present: Larry Ashby

Number of other attendees: List to be made available upon request

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Marie Testerman called the meeting to order

A quorum was present

Agenda for September 17, 2015 was approved

Minutes for July 16, 2015 was approved

Reports from Standing Committees:

- a. Policies & Issues – No report.
- b. Elections and Nominations - No report.
- c. Communications - No report.
- d. Staff and Community Relations – No report.

Reports from University-Wide Committees:

- a. Diversity & Equity Action – No report.
- b. Intercollegiate Athletics – No report.
- c. Parking and Traffic – No report.
- d. Budget and Planning – No report.
- e. University Executive – No report.
- f. Dining Services Advisory committee – No report.
- g. Bookstore Advisory Committee – No report.

**Old business:**

Staff Senate has scheduled a speaker to talk about Radford University and the agreement with the Aquatic Center in Christiansburg allowing faculty, staff and students to use their center.

Peters Hall will offer classes, schedule will be announced in November and January

Ice Cream Social was a success, among the attendees was President Kyle. Chartwells donated the ice cream, 4 tubs of vanilla, 2 tubs of chocolate and 1 tub of strawberry.

**New business:**

Marie Testerman introduced Dr. Bruce Brown, Radford City Mayor, to discuss the New River Valley Rail 2020. Three years ago the City of Radford started looking into having a passenger train stop in our area. Dr. Brown discussed the benefits of having a passenger train service come to the New River Valley. Not only would it provide easier access for people to travel, but it would also take traffic off of the interstate. It could also boost the area's economy.

Dr. Bruce Brown introduced Kevin Byrd, Executive Director NRV Regional Commission. Mr. Byrd gave a presentation on the passenger rail service. There needs to be a certain amount interest before the passenger train can become a reality in the NRV. Go <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/nrvrailsurvey> to take the survey.

For more information on New River Valley Rail 2020 visit:

<http://www.nrvpassengerrail.org/>

or

<https://www.facebook.com/nrvpassengerrail>

President Kyle will be our guest speaker at the October 15, 2015 meeting. A survey will be sent out to collect questions and ideas on topics of interest to cover in the meeting.

Larry Ashby announced the Employee Benefits Fair is on October 9, 2015 from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Flu shots will be available, must have your insurance card.

Staff Senate will have a table at the Employee Benefits Fair

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Hurlburt Hall 249/250.

/s/ Pamela R Duncan, Recording Secretary