



Present: Pam Bridges, Joy Clark, Pamela Clark, Kimberly Dunnavant, Barbara Ferguson, Juliana Hunt, Kayla Kohanek-Tankersley, Damon Lares, Chris Latham, Christen Lott, Julia Pope, Morgan Stanford

Absent: Beth Jenkins

Julia Pope called the meeting to order. Barbara Ferguson called the motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting, Damon Lares seconded the motion- minutes were accepted and approved with no changes.

Old Business:

a. Staff Mentoring Program:

Regina Kyle (previous Staff Senator) managed the pilot program. Senate member can volunteer to manage the program or a committee can be formed. Discussed the program and how it can benefit new staff members by providing them with support, professional development opportunities, and knowledge of campus. Surveys from participants was positive. Chris Latham will email overview of the program to all Staff Senate members along with the current mentor and mentee list for review. Will accept ideas and volunteers to continue this program at October's meeting.

New Business:

a. Remote Work Policy:

Questions about staff remote work policy vs. faculty remote work policy. Can we get more detailed information on a remote work policy and the approval procedures? Does the remote work policy apply to situations not related to Covid? Could staff request a certain number of remote work days per year? Staff Senate will continue this discussion at October's meeting.

b. Request to Open Staff Senate Meetings to All Staff Members:

It was suggested we offer openings for staff to share concerns or ask questions before and/or after meetings so regular Staff Senate business can be conducted during Staff Senate meetings. It was also suggested we offer full staff meetings with only staff members.

c. Breast Cancer Awareness Fundraiser:

Senate would like to continue annual Breast Cancer Awareness Fundraiser. Joy will research and email Staff Senate with profits from pumpkin sales and t shirt sales. A final vote ruled in favor of t shirt sales. Chris Latham will contact vendors for timeline and prices. It was suggested we include tumblers, stadium blankets and other pink items as well. Planning to send emails about the fundraiser after Fiddlers Convention (October 4).

d. Julia Pope Resigning:

Julia submitted her resignation as she has chosen to focus on her family during this time. She thanked and expressed her appreciation for her time at Athens State and as Presiding Officer of Staff Senate. Christen Lott joined as Staff Senate member effective immediately to fill vacancy of the current member who will serve as the newly elected Presiding Officer in Julia's absence.

e. Vote for New Presiding Office:

Floor was open to nominations for new Presiding Officer. Kimberly Dunnavant nominated Beth Jenkins. Staff Senate voted and Beth Jenkins was unanimously appointed as new Presiding Officer for the 2021-2023 term.

Departmental Concerns/Announcements from Senate Members: none

Meeting adjourned at 10:38am

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kayla Kohanek Tankersley