

Athens Technical College
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Athens, Georgia
February 24, 2015
10:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Rusty Adams
Ms. Barbara Cabaniss
Mr. Terry Chandler
Ms. Rebecca Dally
Mr. Ed Geddings
Mr. Scott Hardigree
Mr. Todd Henry
Mr. Steve Hollis
Dr. Mixon Robinson
Mr. Lawton Stephens

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Robert Motley
Mr. Jimmy Parker

GUESTS

Dr. Tawana Mattox, 2015 Athens Technical College Rick Perkins Award Winner
Ms. Jamisha Dove, 2015 Athens Technical College EAGLE Award Winner

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Dr. Mixon Robinson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. welcoming everyone to the February board meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Margaret Morgan introduced Dr. Tawana Mattox who is the 2015 Athens Technical College Rick Perkins Award Winner. Dr. Mattox is a college instructor and adjunct coordinator for the General Education Division. She has been with the college for ten years. She developed the Success Skills Course and First Semester Seminar. Dr. Mattox will be competing next week at the regional competition. Dr. Mattox gave her Rick Perkins Award speech for the board members.

Ms. Stephanie Benson introduction Ms. Jamisha Dove who is the 2015 Athens Technical College EAGLE Award Winner. Ms. Dove will graduate in May with her GED. Ms. Dove gave her EAGLE Award speech to the board members.

Judge Lawton Stephens swore in Ms. Rebecca Dally, our newest board member. Ms. Dally will represent Walton County.

Ms. Stephanie Benson gave a PowerPoint presentation on her Accelerating Opportunity program. Accelerating Opportunity is rethinking traditional adult education by removing barriers that prevent adults from entering and completing their education. The program allows

students to work on their GED while taking college credit courses. Our program is only one of seven programs in the state.

The Accelerating Opportunity program has partnerships with national and local entities such as Jobs for the Future and Caterpillar to help facilitate graduates' direct job placement. Students have access to career mentors who help them with resume writing, job searching, training services, career counseling, and job referrals.

The program offers Workforce Investment Act (WIA) assistance that will help students with the cost of tuition, fees, books, transportation and day care. Students also have access to emergency loans. There is a counselor on campus to meet and track students' progress.

The program also offers a Backpack Bridge program which helps students transition from GED to college courses. There are mentors available to help with the transition.

The program has been operating for one year now. It started with four students and now has forty-three students. Seven of the students who were in the program are now employed. There are sixteen new students beginning in March.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Robinson called for approval of the January minutes with one addition. Mr. Jimmy Parker did attend the January meeting and needs to be added to the "members present" list. Steve Hollis made a motion to approve the minutes with the one addition and Todd Henry seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. The minutes were approved with one addition.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Dr. Andrea Daniel gave the board an update on Economic Development Services. She passed out a photo of students who obtained jobs with Haering, a German automotive parts manufacturer, who is going to be expanding to Hartwell. These students recently left for training in Germany for three years. Haering plans to be up and running in 2017.

Dr. Daniel updated the board on the state's retraining tax credit program. Retraining tax credits enable Georgia businesses to offset investment in employees. Business can receive a tax credit of 50% of their direct training expenses, with up to \$500 credit per full-time employee, per training program. We approve tax credits for our region. We have approved eight companies for a total of eleven training programs. There are three more companies coming this week.

There will be a ribbon cutting for the new Economic Development Training Center on the Elbert County Campus on March 25th at 3:00 pm. The training center is open for training to anyone in our ten county service area. It is also available to companies wishing to rent space for training. Dr. Daniel passed out invitations to the board members.

The workplace fundamentals class is up and running in Greene County. They are starting week three and its going great so far.

The Georgia Manufacturer Appreciation Luncheon will be on April 14th in Atlanta. She invited the board members to attend. They have nominated Noramco, Eaton, Power Partners, McCann Aerospace, Moeller Tech, NIBCO, Novelis, and Leggett & Platt for the award.

Dr. Daniel passed out the recent issue of ATC Tech Wire which contains the Winter/Spring 2015 continuing education courses.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

Dr. Dan Smith passed out information on the Pathways to Success event that was held on February 16th. Faculty members from both Clarke County High Schools were invited to attend the event and meet with local companies about their employment opportunities.

Dr. Smith passed out a flyer about the Monsters, Media, Magic, and Music courses being offered at the college. These are our regular courses with a little twist to them. The courses incorporate some aspects of movies like Harry Potter.

Dr. Smith announced that Dean Susan Larson and Dean Carol Myers will be retiring at the end of the semester. They will be missed by the college. With their retirement the college is restructuring the academic divisions to create a modified "STEM" structure which will include Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Dr. Smith presented the Medical Assisting Scribe TCC for approval. The program will offer two options for students. The first will be for students who have completed the medical assisting program and are interested in enhancing their employment opportunities with advance skills in medical transcription and scribing. The second will be a longer option for students who have not taken the medical assisting program and are interested in obtaining employment as a medical scribe.

Dr. Smith asked the board for approval of the Medical Assisting Scribe TCC. Rusty Adams made a motion to approve and Steve Hollis seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. The Medical Assisting Scribe TCC Program was approved.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Kathryn Thomas presented the Budget Amendments for February 24, 2015. The Budget Amendments include additional funds for Perkins Carryover and Athens Community Career Academy.

Ms. Thomas asked the board for approval of the Budget Amendments. Lawton Stephens made a motion to approve and Barbara Cabaniss seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. The Budget Amendments were approved.

Ms. Thomas presented the Financial Report as of January 31, 2015.

OFF-CAMPUS OPERATIONS

Dr. Larry Siefferman asked Ms. Liz Dalton to give the board a Public Relations and Athens Tech Foundation update. The Athens Tech Foundation just finished the Legacy Campaign with \$16,500 being raised. The campaign had a Mardi Gras theme and was a lot of fun for the faculty and staff. Ms. Carol Stanly and Mr. Phillip Myer were co-chairs of the campaign.

The Third Annual Lu Owl will be on May 1, 2015 in a new location at the Cotton Press on Chase Street in Athens. Ms. Dalton passed out information on the Lu Owl.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dr. Leslie Crickenberger updated board members on Student Affairs. They have been targeting high school seniors by sending personalized letters to them. They want students to know what Athens Technical College has to offer.

She met with Ms. Liz Dalton and Ms. Nancy Stangle, who is on the Athens Tech Foundation board, regarding emergency loans. They are looking at a better way to use the funds including offering bus passes and Kroger cards to students.

She is sitting on a committee for the Council on Aging. They want to provide internal scholarships for their employees to go to college.

Graduation will be at the Classic Center on May 4th. GED ceremony will be at 10:00 am and the academic ceremony will be at 2:00 pm.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Tydings congratulated Ms. Stephanie Benson on her great work with the Accelerating Opportunity program. She also congratulated Dr. Andrea Daniel with her work with Haering.

Dr. Tydings passed out information on legislative bills for this session.

College presidents were asked by Commissioner Corbin for the amount it would take to change their college name. It is going to cost \$1 million to change Athens Technical College's name.

BOARD ACTIVITIES

Chair Robinson asked board members to share activities they have been involved in lately or any upcoming activities. Mr. Ed Geddings thanked Dr. Andrea Daniel for her help with getting the CNA program in Wilkes County. He also thanked Dr. Dan Smith and Mr. Glenn Henry for their help with some work for Wilkes County.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting with appropriate motion and second at 12:00 p.m.

Flora W. Tydings, President
Rebecca Allen
Executive Assistant
2 /25/15

Next scheduled Board Meeting: March 24, 2015.

** Denotes action items that require a vote for approval by the local board.*