Staff Council President-Elect, Cathy Ziegler, called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.
Meeting minutes: July meeting minutes were approved with 2 corrections to the attendance.

Guest Lecturer: Greg Lovins: Interim Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs

Greg thanked the staff for all the things we do to support the University and Administration. He covered two major topics: Budget and Capitol Project Updates
Greg presented information about the budget process and explained how the budget reductions occurred. He also stated how much he appreciates Betsy Payne and her staff. A $467 tuition increase per academic year effective July 2010 will prevent academic cuts and preserve teaching positions.

He also addressed there is no money budgeted for staff salary increases. There is no money budgeted for new buildings. He stated that Chancellor Peacock really understands the frustration these budget reductions cause.

The new College of Health Sciences received $500,000 funding for operating costs.

He also stated that Boone Creek (Kraut Creek) is being restored to a more ‘natural’ landscape. This will take years to fully complete but that is what the construction is all about. The administration wants to maintain green space.

Old Business:

1. **Membership – Seth Norris**
   Seth passed out the membership roster to have the members check to make sure their name is listed and the information is correct. This information is important so a functional up-to-date membership list can be created. Many people are listed that are no longer employees of ASU. Some are listed that are no longer staff council representatives. The by-laws do not define ‘area’ so working under ‘divisions’ makes it a little easier to analyze equitable representation.

2. **By Laws & Constitution – Seth Norris**
   Amendments to the by-laws and constitution will be provided at our next staff council meeting. Seth stressed the importance of having the By-Laws and Constitution reflective of what the staff council’s agenda and purpose is.
3. **Freshman Move-In** – Alice Gryder
   The initial request went out for volunteers and because Chancellor Peacock stated staff did not have to use vacation time, the available slots were filled within 2 hours.

V. **New Business**

1. **Craft Enrichment** – Eric Reichard
   Eric asked for suggestions on how to improve the craft enrichment program. He’d like to have emails with any ideas for future programs. With the budget crunch, the craft enrichment may have to remove the 20% discount for staff. The original goal was a 40% discount for faculty, staff and students. The 40% discount was cut to 20% and is available for staff and students only. It is a worthwhile operation and “good therapy” for creative endeavors. Look on the ASU website under Appalachian Arts or go to www.craftenrichment.com

2. **Convocation** – Jenny Primm
   Staff Council officers asked for input from representatives about whether to continue to invite representatives to sit in chairs on the Holmes assembly floor. They discussed whether it was a concern if only a handful of reps sit there and if it would give the appearance of lack of participation. Jenny explained what Convocation is. It is an event that all incoming freshmen attend. It is their first experience with the Appalachian experience and “pomp & circumstance”. This is also a time when faculty and staff awards are presented. It is a time that is important to Chancellor Peacock. It is once a year and the date was changed this year to allow Chancellor Peacock to be in attendance. The Convocation committee wants to make it a more comprehensive meeting for the university and the community. Last year was different because of the demand for seating due to the guest speaker. After discussion by multiple representatives, it was decided that reps do want to continue to be invited to sit on the assembly floor. Emails should be sent out about the Convocation and Cathy will contact Bob Charlebois to make sure all staff council members know they are invited to attend. If you plan to walk in a block and sit together on the assembly floor, you need to be at the Convocation building by 9:30 am on Thursday, Sept. 16.

3. **Insurance Committee** – Patrick McCoy
   Each payroll division needs to form an insurance committee. The committee has never convened since Patrick has been here. This is probably the only way to control the RFP. He is excited about the prospects and the potential benefit to the staff.

The committee will be meeting 1-2 times a month. The committee will survey the university to find if there are other benefits that are wanted or valuable for faculty and staff here at ASU. This is being done at all state agencies and all the other 16 university campuses. The decision will be made by the committee as to what will be offered to faculty and staff. The administration will not be permitted to interfere. Terms for this committee need to be finalized. Other committees on campus have staggered terms. He suggested the standard term of 3 years, with the exception for the first year. For the first year, one member will serve a 1 year term. The second member will serve a 2 year term. The third member will serve a 3 year term. When each member rotates off the committee, they are replaced by a member that will serve a 3 year term. This allows for continuity from the beginning. Patrick has the names of 3 people that have indicated they are willing to serve. He will be providing more information as it is available. The purchasing office will provide information for costs, etc.
4. **Furlough** – Patrick McCoy
   GA will set up parameters to each chancellor at each campus to allow furloughs more local control and less state control. Chancellor Peacock has not decided to use this furlough plan at this point. However, Patrick will update us if things happen to change. Chancellor Peacock will only use the furlough as an absolute last resort.

5. **NC Pays** – Patrick McCoy
   NC Pays is a new system being considered as a 3rd supplement for Career Banding. The State Personnel Director Coleman was sent a notice from President Bowles stating that the UNC System will request exemption from this new program. At this point, NC Pays is not an issue.

6. **Correspondence** – Cathy Ziegler
   All Staff Council correspondence will need to be approved by staff council officers. This includes US mail, email, intercampus mail, etc. The suggestion is to email it to Bob Charlebois as president. If there is a delay in response from Bob (due to his final work on his Masters), staff council members are encouraged to contact other officers as well.

7. **Group Photograph**
   We hope to have at September meeting

VI. **Council Concerns**

   **Furloughs** – is a last resort and we are not in favor of a furlough. There is a wage pay threshold to protect lower income staff. Cathy received many concerns about furlough discussion and the frustration of having the ‘spend, spend, spend’ focus at the end of the year. Cathy explained that salary money is different than operating money. It is confusing at times. Staff Council members were encouraged to continue to contact the officers with concerns regarding this.

VII. **Kudos** – Diana Barbee, and Seth Norris received Staff Council kudos for their hard work and contributions.

VIII. **Announcements:**

   September 4th – first football game at Chattanooga.

IX. **Adjournment**
   Cathy Ziegler adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Carpenter-Stoudt

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Staff Council Secretary