VENANGO TECHNOLOGY CENTER
JOINT COMMITTEE
1 Vo-Tech Drive
Oil City, Pennsylvania 16301

MINUTES

May 7, 2012

The regular meeting of the Venango Technology Center Joint Committee was held this evening in the Conference Room of the Venango Technology Center, 1 Vo-Tech Drive, Oil City, PA 16301. Chairman Mehalic called the meeting to order at seven o'clock. (7:00) p.m.

Chairman Mehalic asked the members to pause for a moment of silence.

Chairman Mehalic asked the members to stand for the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Patty Feroz, Mike Port, Ron Lytle, Todd Carson, Karen Woods, Sue Barthen, Dwight Proper, John Mehalic

Absent: Randy Seitz, Bill Deal

Also Present: Mario Fontanazza, Mr. Kevin Sprong, Martin Conti, Stephen Beers, Karen Strawbridge, Travis Crate

Mrs. Woods, seconded by Mr. Proper, moved to approve the Minutes of the April 2, 2012 meeting as submitted. Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Deal arrived at 7:03 p.m.

The Treasurer and Secretary's Report as of 5/7/12 and the Special Account Report as of 5/7/12 were submitted for information.

Mrs. Woods, seconded by Mrs. Feroz, moved to approve the Treasurer and Secretary's Report as of 5/7/12 and the Special Account Report as of 5/7/12. Motion unanimously carried.

A list of bills totaling $650,748.33 was presented for approval.

Mrs. Woods, seconded by Mr. Deal moved to approve the list of bills totaling $650,748.33 as submitted.

Mr. Adams detailed several items on the list of bills.

Roll Call: Ayes: Patty Feroz, Mike Port, Ron Lytle, Todd Carson, Karen Woods, Bill Deal, Sue Barthen, Dwight Proper, John Mehalic

Nayes: None, motion carried.

Chairman Mehalic stated that time for public comment was allotted. He introduced Mrs. Angela Warner. Mrs. Warner spoke on behalf of the Cosmetology program. She felt the Joint Committee was doing a disservice to the students to reduce the program from two instructors to one. She explained the dire need for cosmetologists throughout the country.

Under Communications, the Minutes of the Professional Advisory Committee Meeting of 5/7/12, the Calendar of Events for the month of May and the Monthly Enrollment Reports as of 5/7/12 were submitted.

The Committee called an executive session for personnel matters at 7:16 p.m.

The Committee reconvened at 8:22 p.m.

Chairman Mehalic requested permission to combine the next seven items, as follows:

a) Mario Fontanazza and Larry Baughman to attend the PACTEC conference in Lancaster on June 22 – 24, 2012 at a cost not to exceed $2,200.00 – STEM Grant $1,100.00 and local $1,100.00
b) Kylie Harris and Julie Cartney to attend the Wiser Symposium on Nursing Simulation on May 24 – 25, 2012 in Pittsburgh at a cost not to exceed $1,300.00 – Funding Practical Nursing
c) Approve conference request for Cindy Jarzab to attend the Special Education Leadership conference in Bedford, PA on July 23 – 26, 2012 at a cost not to exceed $800.00 – Funding local
d) Approve list of equipment for disposal.
e) Approve four day summer work week schedule. All 12-month staff will work four, ten hour days.
f) Approve staff realignment plan for Warren satellite Practical Nursing program.
g) Approve additions to General and Occupational Advisory committees.

Roll Call: Ayes: Patty Feroz, Mike Port, Ron Lytle, Todd Carson, Karen Woods, Bill Deal, Sue Barthen, Dwight Proper, John Mehalic

Nayes: None, motion carried.

Chairman Mehalic introduced Mrs. Karen Strawbridge, Cosmetology instructor, to discuss the Cosmetology program. Mrs. Strawbridge spoke with great passion regarding her life-long commitment to the Venango Technology Center both as a student and a teacher. She expressed why she believed it is important to have two instructors as this has always been a well attended program. She explained that there were many other avenues that students proceed down, rather than staying directly in Cosmetology. She detailed many other career paths related to Cosmetology and traits that their students gain that can be used in all areas in any career path.

Mrs. Woods left at 8:32 p.m.

Next, Mr. Mehalic introduced Mr. Stephen Beers, Cosmetology instructor. Mr. Beers outlined why he felt it would be a mistake for the Joint Committee to eliminate an instructor in the Cosmetology program. He also indicated the continued strength in numbers in this area and the great need that this field provides in a rural area. He described the number of job openings available in Pennsylvania and across the country. He gave life examples of students who had completed their program and how they were able to achieve success as a direct result of attending this program. He then described the high NOCTI results for students attending this program. Mr. Beers expressed his passion and desire to allow this area to continue to offer this opportunity, so this well attended area may retain and continue to support two instructors.

Mr. Fontanazza reviewed his activities from April 3, 2012 through May 7, 2012.

Chairman Mehalic asked if there was any old business to discuss. None was noted.

Under new business, Chairman Mehalic stated that the June meeting would be moved to June 6, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Upon motion by Mr. Lytle, seconded by Mr. Deal, the meeting adjourned at eight fifty-two (8:52) p.m.

Recorded by,



Patrick M. Adams
Secretary, Joint Committee