

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 30, 2024

Mark called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Introductions were made.

Members present were, Bryan Funk, Mark Gerszewski, Jerome Gerszewski, Gavin Flatt, Mitch Rogers, Zach Loudon, Dan Norton

Faculty present: Mark A. Johnson, Joe Griffin.

Administration present: John Fields V.P.

Student Representation: Ray Tarala

A motion was made by Mark Gerszewski to approve the minutes from the last meeting, seconded by Dan Norton.

Mark reported that we started 0 students in first year due to his medical condition with currently graduating 8 in second year.

Members were informed that we currently have 5 students registered for the fall of 2024.

John Fields asked what is our class Max limit?

Mark commented that currently it is 23 but is very unsafe in a shop setting with a 1:23 student to instructor ratio.

- Members had discussion of class limit size and agreed that 18 was a safe number, Jerome made a motion to set the class limit to a safe number of 18, John Fields commented that the class limit is contractual, but he will look into it.

- Members inquired on recruiting events from the past year and were informed that Joe had attended two career fairs and the program participated in a “career day” that hosted approximately 75 students from area schools. Second year students assisted in the event.

Zach Loudon pointed out that he used “The Bus” during his 2018-2020 enrollment at TRF while he lived in EGF. He also said it was a Northland supplied mode of transportation for students to get from EGF to TRF.

- John Fields commented that he would investigate as to how it was operated as it is no longer an option offered by Northland College.

Mark informed the committee of the results of the ASE Program Certification. The ASE rating scale was discussed, as well as the onsite evaluator using his own self-made scale of evaluation.

- Gavin asked the question of “what does the ASE Certification do for us?”
Mark elaborated on its importance as an outside entity looking and verifying the program is teaching the proper curriculum and to the correct number of hours.
- Mark also shared with the members the current results of the End of Program Tests as they are still in the process of testing. Our students scored well above the national average in all ASE areas. The tests results reinforce the Modular course schedules that we currently have in place.
- Mark Gerszewski commented on how it makes sense to deliver content this way. He also mentioned that his daughter’s high school delivered some courses this way and she did much better with that format.

Joe Reported to the committee members the use of HP tuners Scanner and Editor software that was suggested by committee member Gavin Flatt from the previous November 27th meeting. Joe explained the use of the software has brought a whole new level of engine and transmission management theory and operation to the classroom. Members discussed the software as a high interest to potential students and that it would set Northland apart from other Colleges.

- Gavin Flatt made a motion for Joe to pursue further education such as acquiring additional platforms of course work and attending a tuning school event. Jerome seconded the motion.

Mark informed the committee that the program was not awarded any equipment money for this year.

- Many members asked as to why? Mark commented we were not informed as to the process used for allocation of the funds.
- Mark also mentioned that we are still waiting for the approval to get the electrical trainers that were mentioned in our May 8, 2023 meeting. John Fields said he would investigate.

Mark reported that the current program budget is \$21,000.

- Committee discussion recommends that the budget will need to be increased to accommodate the higher cost of providing the first-year content.

Committee members were informed that Joe will be taking a Sabbatical for the fall semester and will return for the spring semester.

Members discussed student job placement. Currently we have 4 of the 8 second year students employed by dealerships and 4 working in other places. All are employed.

Dan made the motion to adjourn, Mark Gerszewski seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned, 7:43 p.m.

Respectively submitted, Joe Griffin