

**AUTO BODY REPAIR (ABR)
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2007**

I. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Alga Gatson called the Advisory Committee meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The following were present:

Mr. Tom Sizemore – NAPA Auto Parts
Mr. Rodney Gatson – Southern Comfort Custom Vans
Mr. Clyde Scott – Dabbs Area Vocational School
Mr. Mike Hussey– Tom Williams
Mr. Lonnie Coleman – Student
Mr. Alga Gatson – Lawson State Community College
Mr. Darryl Rowe –Lawson State Community College
Mr. Tom Berryman – Lawson State Community College

II. OVERVIEW OF THE ABR PROGRAM

Mr. Gatson gave a brief overview of the current program and stressed the importance of working with local collision repair shops and high schools to meet the needs of the industry. He asked each member to share the training they felt students need to compete.

III. TRAINING NEEDS

Mr. Scott indicated that his high school program works closely with Lawson State already, but his students are especially interested in custom paint application.

Mr. Hussey wants to see more time spent with frame straightening. Most of the new collision repair techs are great at removing parts and reinstalling, but he feels they are weak when there is major structural damage involved. Mr. Gatson advised the Committee that we do teach the students proper usage of the frame machine, but it's extremely difficult to get access to a vehicle that needs frame straightening to teach actual repairs. Mr. Berryman suggested working with a local insurance company to "borrow" totaled vehicles. Maybe they would let the students try straightening the frames prior to scrapping the vehicle.

Mr. Berryman suggested adding an insurance representative to the Advisory Committee.

Mr. Hussey would also like to see some A/C training for the students.

Mr. Scott felt that some Suspension and Steering training would be helpful.

Mr. Sizemore agreed with the above statements and added that "hands-on" training is crucial in this business for the technicians to succeed.

IV. NATEF CERTIFICATION

Mr. Berryman discussed the issue of NATEF certification with the Committee. All members agreed that it was a necessary step for the ABR program to take. Mr. Berryman is preparing the documentation necessary to apply for certification. Mr. Rowe is reviewing the required tool list. Mr. Rowe and Mr. Gatson will take the ASE tests in the spring and we should be ready to certify sometime in June. At the next Advisory Committee meeting Mr. Berryman will have the self-evaluation portion ready for the Committee to review.

V. AWARD OFFERINGS

Mr. Berryman raised the issue of long certificates and AOT degrees with the Committee. In order to offer an AOT degree it will be necessary to reinstate the long-certificate in ABR. We can use the ABR Certificate in conjunction with the Auto Mechanics program (ABR Major, AUM Minor) to offer an AOT degree for Auto Body students. That would give the employers a well rounded body technician, with mechanical skills in Electrical, Brakes, Steering & Suspension, and A/C.

All Committee members thought it was a great idea. Mr. Berryman will research the steps necessary to implement the Certificate and will report back to the Committee at our next meeting.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Gatson discussed relocating the classroom across the hall to Room 116. This room was recently vacated by the Drafting program and is not in use. It has double the seating capacity and additional room for office space. The Committee agreed that it was a wise move and if the program continues to grow we will need the additional seating space.

Mr. Rowe is disturbed by the appearance of the student body. Most of them are coming to class dressed in old clothes to prevent soiling their good clothes. As a result, the class and lab look very unprofessional. He would like the Committee to adopt a policy requiring students to purchase and wear some type of uniform style clothing. The Committee agreed that it was a good idea. Mr. Rowe and Mr. Gatson will work on instituting a dress code policy for ABR students.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

**SHADES VALLEY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MINUTES FROM MEETING
SPRING 2006**

The meeting was called to order by Carter Ross the President, at 6:00 pm Tuesday March 25 2006. The first issue at hand was safety issues that were prevalent in the shop. Mr. Ross indicated that it may be a good idea for everyone to make a close assessment of their work environment to ensure each individual practice safety habits.

Alga Gatson stressed the importance of making sure that there was fully stocked first aid kits on the premises where repairs was being performed.

Clyde Scott mentioned how he constantly covers the importance of shop safety with his students and how important it is to carry it on into the workplace.

John Overstreet says that he touches base with shop managers in which his company services, about any concerns they may have about the safety of their employees and how his company can help.

Lowell Bond concurred with the comment everyone has made and offered his assistance with launching a shop safety campaign.

Claude Scott suggested that it may be a good idea to start some sort of news letter to make technicians and future technicians aware of the dangers present in the work place.

The meeting concluded @7:45 pm

Members in attendance

Carter Ross
Claude Scott
Clyde Scott
Alga Gatson
John Overstreet
Lowell Bonds

Auto Body Repair Spring 07 Advisory Meeting

At 6:10 the meeting was called to order by President John Rizzo. Subject discusses by the advisory council are the many changes in the Automobile Insurance Industry Stated by David Horn of NO LIMIT Automotive Collision Repair. Mr. Horn is the owner and shop Manager. He constantly have Geico Insurance claims and they deal in value business, for example, if a job comes in the shop and has a four hr dent on it that automobile should be read the next morning, because a four hour job is a one day job in the site of the Insurance company.

Mr. Horn says that young adults he put to work seem to not understand this and don't get in a hurry about getting the work out in a timely manner or the quality of the work, just running the time on the ticket. This should be taught in the school level the work must be done. Clyde Scott said that if the student does not want to step up the pace it is hard to make him/her understand the principle. Maybe help the parent's part will aide into this because they are the first teachers. Greg Johnson said that many of the new employees simply get used to the pay checks and this to is ok just to get by, once again it is the parent job as first teacher to place work values into the young students when possible.

John Rizzo has hired a delivery service to service his customers because of the lack of concern by the young workers.

Rodney Gatson disagreed these young people are the future of the industry and they need employment and to be able to prove themselves.

David Horn both agreed that they both need people in the detail shop and more time need to be spent on car detailing after the wreck has been completed.

Greg Johnson asked if there was anything he could do to help with the NATEF review. Rodney Gatson said he needed some long sanding blocks and mixing colorants, for the mixing machine.

Darryl Rowe asked if there were any updated Mitchell estimate books to replace our old ones.

Mr. Rizzo said it would be good to have Mitchell on Demand but understood the cost factor.

Mr. Rowe and Mr. Gatson brought to the committees attention of trying to get the long certificate back into the auto body program. After reviewing the survey, they were in agreement.

Clyde Scott
Alga Gatson
Rodney Gatson
David Horn
John Rizzo
Greg Johnson

ABR Spring Advisory Committee Meeting ABR Classroom

In attendance: John Rizzo Autocolor
Kevin Moon Crest Cadillac-Hummer
Clyde Scott Dabbs Area Vocational School
David Horn No Limit Collision Repair
Greg Johnson PPG Industries
Rodney Gatson Southern Comfort
Paul Jones Town and Country Ford

Absent: Chris Jones Long-Lewis Ford

Instructors Present: Darryl Rowe
Aga Gatson

Opening

The meeting was convened at 6:10 pm. After opening remarks by John Rizzo, Committee President, and introduction of all members, the following topics were discussed.

NATEF

Members were brought up-to-date concerning NATEF Certification. The members discussed the need for the certification and identified program needs for the process. NATEF requires an extensive written program review to be conducted by the instructors. After submission of the review a committee will be appointed by NATEF to visit the program to make sure it is in compliance with certification standards. The committee will also make recommendations for program improvement. Greg Johnson asked if there was anything he could do to help with the NATEF review. The instructors provided Mr. Johnson and the other members with a list of paint and tool needs to help with the process.

LONG CERTIFICATE REQUEST

Instructors Rowe and Gatson updated the committee on their efforts to get the long certificate for the auto body program. They said the college had received over 40 prospective employer verifications and surveys. The employer verifications and survey were reviewed by the committee members. The instructors said they anticipate having all of the information in by the end of the month. The long certificate would consist of the current courses plus the following offerings: ABR 223 Automotive Mechanical Components, ABR 224 Automotive Electrical Components, ABR 255 Steering and Suspension, ABR 261 Restraint Systems, and ABR 265 Paint Defects and Final Repair. The long certificate will include four general education classes; mathematics, speech, English, and computers. After a discussion all members agreed the long certificate is a necessary offering for local employers. The committee was pleased with the large number of responses the long-certificate had received. They said 246 employer verifications and surveys were distributed and they already had a seventeen percent (16%) return rate. The committee asked Mr. John Rizzo to draft a letter of support for the long certificate.

CATALOG UPDATE

The committee reviewed the current classes offered by the Auto Body Repair Program. They include:

PSY 100	Orientation to College
WKO 107	Workplace Skills Preparation
ABR 111	Non Structural Repair
ABR 114	Non Structural Panel Replacement
ABR 122	Surface Preparation
ABR 123	Paint Preparation and Equipment
ABR 151	Safety and Environmental Practices
ABR 154	Automotive Glass and Trim
ABR 156	Cutting and Welding
ABR 213	Automotive Structural Analysis
ABR 214	Automotive Structural Repair

The syllabi and course competencies were reviewed by the committee and approved. The committee was informed that the WKO 107 class covers the WorkKeys Skill Assessments for Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Locating Information. Once students complete the course work their skills are assessed by ACT and they receive a Gold, Silver, or Bronze Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) from the State of Alabama. The CRC is a standard way for employers to compare job applicants in the three areas. Statistics show that if a student earns a Gold Certificate (level 5) he is competent to perform ninety five percent (95%) of the jobs requiring the skill sets. The WKO class will also be a benefit to students pursuing a long certificate because it will help them prepare for their general education course work.

The committee agreed to meet and review the NATEF certification documents as soon as they are completed.

Adjourned: 7:55
Submitted by: Alga Gatson
Auto Body Repair Instructor
Lawson State Community College

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