

1. Attendance & Logistics

- **In Person:** Natasha Watts (Executive Director), Debbie Carpenter (Admin: RC-RV, Grants and Explore@RC), April Pratt (business leader/community member), Becca Goldstein (Student Success Coordinator), Kathy (Dean of Roanoke College) and Lisa Stoneman (RC-RV).
 - **Virtual:** Heather Johnson (Director of Grants), Karen Sanzo (ODU ex officio), Alice Kassens (Faculty, Roanoke College).
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2. Welcome & Introductions

- **Natasha** recapped Debbie and Becca's hire and the meeting agenda: mission/vision, pilot year review, enrollment targets, MOUs, summer camp, financials, RCRV restructuring, and bylaws timeline.
 - **New Staff:**
 - Becca Goldstein, Student Success Coordinator (RC '25)
 - Debbie Carpenter, Administrative Support (shared across units)
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3. Pilot Year & Enrollment

- **Pilot Year (2024–25):** 10 students in fall, 9 in spring ("Year 0") .
 - **Operational Year '25–26:** 30 enrolled to date, aiming for 35–40 by March; long-term goal 75–100, eventually 150.
 - **MOUs:** Active with Roanoke County & Salem City; in negotiation with Roanoke City and others region-wide.
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4. Summer Camp Recap

- **Current Voices Camp:** 19 students grade 8–11; 8 faculty contributed; appealed to Roanoke College and regional partners; built pipeline into Explorer program.
 - Positive feedback from students, parents, faculty (e.g., field trips to Roanoke River, water treatment plant; career-mapping sessions) .
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5. Financial & Grant Updates

- **FY 2024–25 Expenditures:**
 - ~\$1.2 M in start-up/planning grants; \$332 K spent: 56% personnel, 6% supplies/marketing, 17% staff development, 21% equipment/furniture (including dedicated van) .
 - \$94 K in-kind support from RC for pilot tuition & dining .
 - Licensing support for 37 RC faculty (CPR, first aid, transcript processing) .
 - **Sustainability & Fundraising:**
 - Applied for six external grants totaling \$403 K (vs. \$85 K planned): state, private foundations, ODU Innovation Fund (\$10 K), EPS Foundation pending \$25 K .
 - Startup-fund spending deadline extended to June 2026 (approx. \$883 K unexpended) .
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6. RCRV Restructuring

- **Roanoke College & Roanoke Valley (RCRV):** Emerging “anchor institution” model with three pillars:
 1. **K–12 Dual Enrollment** (Explore@RC)
 2. **Continuing Education & Professional Development**
 3. **Online Degree Programs**
 - RCRV aims to broaden access beyond traditional 18–22 year-olds and strengthen community partnerships .
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7. Board Composition & Governance

- **Working Board (“Year 0”):** Roles currently filled ex officio by staff; community members include parents, business leaders, ODU reps, and one student .
- **Discussion Points:**
 - Whether to formalize officer roles (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) vs. open structure .

- Clarify parent vs. community representative seats; ensure balanced school-district representation .
 - Public meeting requirements (in-person quorum, notice/posting) under Virginia code; need guidance on proper announcement channels .
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8. Bylaws & Next Steps

- **Timeline:** Two additional working sessions focused on bylaws; aim for draft by mid-fall, final by December, ready for spring agenda .
 - **Resources:** ODU-vetted templates and existing lab-school bylaws available; consultant support to be solicited .
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Action Items:

1. Confirm officer structure and finalize board membership roster.
 2. Schedule two fall bylaws workshops; circulate ODU templates.
 3. Coordinate with school divisions on meeting notices and quorum rules.
 4. Continue grant applications for degree-mapping support.
 5. Distribute meeting packet and transcript to all members.
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Next Meeting: TBD (likely early October 2025) for bylaws review and operational planning.