Minutes April 12, 2016

Executive Committee
UNCG Alumni Board

Director’s office, Alumni House

Present: Jeff Collins, Mary Napier, Dudley Bokoski, Annette Holesh

Phone: Celia Dickerson, Jana Wagenseller, Elisha Gutloff

Absent: Aubrey Ravenel, Lida Coleman, Tia Wiggins

Ex officio: Mary Landers

Jeff Collins convened the meeting at 12 noon.

1) Alumni Benefits opportunities, presented by Dudley Bokoski for Alumni engagement

Has reviewed offerings by two vendors: Abenity and MM Services, which offer discounts on car rental, hotels, food. Wants to find a third to review.

Looking at several issues:

- How it would be offered to our membership—via our website or giving a list to the vendor to solicit (least desirable).
- Cost to AA, about $1200 a year
- Where could be used (University bookstore very desirable)
- ID would be a card or an app on phone?
- Downloaded demos were not easy to use
- DB will ask other alumni groups for suggestions

2) Establishing an Homecoming Committee for the association presented by Jeff Collins

Jeff suggested at least 10 members to serve, at discretion of the president. Donegan Root will recruit five from interested non-board members. In the past, David Haynes, Bob Nadler, and Sarah Gaffney, Brian Japp, Tim Howell, have served. From the Alumni Association board, five members will serve.

The EC proposes the president-elect serve from July to July. This person then participates in the October Homecoming event, having been part of the planning.

The P-E is chair of the committee until HC. After HC, in October, the P-E steps down as chair and serves on the committee through the term of service (June 30), when next president-elect comes on as chair.
Annette will serve in her capacity as P-E, beginning July 1, 2016. She will work with Donegan and the Student Affairs office. This is an ad hoc committee. Board will assess arrangement over time to decide if should be added as a standing committee.

The committee approved by consensus.

3) Budget and finance
Lida was absent. Jeff requested that all committee budget requests be forwarded to Lida by end of April for finalizing a budget before next board meeting. Some committees (Spartan Recruitment) will not be funded; the legislative advocacy committee needs are not known, but should be less than in the past. Awards, nominations will be requesting more funds.

4) Funding request for NBS/National Pan-hellenic reception, presented by Mary Landers, Tia Wiggins

The Neo-Black Society and the National Pan-hellenic Council have jointly planned a reception for the chancellor and his wife at the AH July 25, 2016, a Sunday. These two affinity groups want to solicit from their membership alum to reconnect with the campus and honor the chancellor. All alumni will be invited to the reception. They request $4000 to fund the reception; anticipate 250 people. The alumni association will also be listed as a sponsor

The EC supports the request, thinks 250 people hard to achieve. EC supports funding a realistic amount, support the effort to reach to these alumni. Mary Landers stated the Alumni Association Fund has $48,000 in it.

Motion : Celia Dickerson   S: Mary Napier  Motion Approved to go before the full board

5) Proposed plan for reorganizing a Student Alumni ambassador program, presented by Mary Landers and Crystal Josey, Assistant Director for the Office of Alumni Engagement

Crystal presented a detailed rationale and plan for rejuvenating the Student Alumni Ambassador (SSA) program. This will put personnel and funds in a program that recognizes superior students, requires them to engage with the alumni and on-campus activities, and gives them a small ($250) senior year stipend. This is separate from Spartans of Promise, which is not as connected to AA activities. The budget request is $4000 for attire, the scholarship money.

Mary Landers noted we need to engage students as potential alumni early on in their campus life and offer students networking opportunities with alum. We both nurture and groom the student and suggest they think of themselves as alum upon graduation.
Crystal asked for input on what to call the program. She gave EC members a list to choose 5. (See Google docs). All EC members: please send Mary Landers your 5 choices (not rank-ordered) by April 30 for her to compile.

Crystal will make the proposal at the May board meeting.

Approved by consensus.

6) Suggested committee chairs for 2015-2016
   Please tell Mary Napier ASAP if: you wish to continue on your committee, chair your committee or suggest someone to serve on a particular committee. New board members will be finalized in May and will be assigned to committees. Mary wants committee chairs in place for the May board meeting.
   Jana praised Annette Holesh for the outstanding work on the Alumni House committee. All agreed this had been the most productive year in memory for this committee.

7) HEW (Higher Education Works) follow-up report—not done

8) Mary Landers read a statement from the chancellor’s office regarding the 125th anniversary celebration.
   The public celebration will not be October 2016. Rather, the chancellor’s office, with a new vice-chancellor for communications, will coordinate a yearlong celebration coupled with fundraising to culminate May 2018.

   Celia Dickerson noted she will be traveling with the chancellor and UNCG’s wind ensemble in Europe at the time of the May board meeting. She thanked the EC for the opportunity to serve for the last six years on an energetic and productive Alumni Association Board.

Meeting adjourned by Jeff Collins, 2:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Celia Dickerson