



## **Board of Directors Minutes May 1, 2008**

Members Present: Walt Merritt (President), Anita Raby (President Elect), Mike English (Past President), Deborah Schaus, Tressie McLemore, Kay Kelly, Lisa Payne (Staff Rep.), Janice Owen, Janet Smith, Tony Smith, Jim Miner, Chad Easterling, Betty Ruth-Oliver, Robin Clem, Vicki Stevenson and Ann Greer

Members not Present: Margaret Kaucher, JJ Donahue, Louise Steele, Kent Bevil, Donald Entrekin, Charles Seifried, John McLain, Jeff Bass

Ex-Officio Members Present: Tena Bullington (Coordinator), Dr. Jerry Bartlett (University President)

Also in Attendance: Tricia Di Lullo (Alumni Secretary)

1. Welcome- Walt Merritt, called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.
2. State of Athens State University- Dr. Bartlett informed the Board that:
  - Enrollment is increasing;
  - 84% of students are taking at least one class online;
  - There are (8) eight online degrees and (33) thirty-three total;
  - Out of the (67) sixty-seven counties, (61) sixty-one are represented by students;
  - The budget was decreased;
  - Campus renovations
    - Waters- An architectural rendering was on display. Half of the renovation budget will be spent on Waters (\$7.5 million). The size of Waters will increase by 50%. Portable labs will be placed on the east side of the gym during the renovation. Construction should start by June.
    - Sanders- Approximately \$2 million will be spent. Renovations are in progress and expected to be done by Christmas.
    - McCandless- An elevator and more restrooms will be added. The size should increase by 1/3<sup>rd</sup>. Betty Ruth asked if the seating capacity would increase. Response- When finished, the auditorium should hold 200-220. There will be a Community Band Concert in McCandless on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> and Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.
    - Brown and Naylor will be renovated with University funding.
3. Intorduction- New member Vicki Stevenson was introduced.

4. Minutes- The minutes from February 7, 2008 were approved.
5. Financial Report- Jim went over the financial report, scholarship investments, and budget in detail. The Louise Steele Family Scholarship is now available. Scholarship investment revenue is down. The financial report was approved.
6. Podiums- The Executive Board met and picked (3) three podiums to purchase pending additional funding. A photo and quote was included in this evening's packet. The center (32') podium will have the horizontal logo and each side (25') podium will have the traditional round seal. The board previously approved \$5000 for the purchase. Since the quote came in above the approved amount a motion was passed to cover the quoted costs. Partial funding from the Foundation and/or Fiddlers will be pursued per Rick Mould. Betty Ruth proposed a small plate attached to the interior, viewable to the speaker, of each podium.

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- Kay agreed and suggested that we do what we can to safeguard the podiums. Trish will contact Best Lecterns for a quote on covers. A motion to pay for the covers was approved not to exceed \$500 per cover or \$1500 total.
7. Alumni Awards Nominations- Betty Ruth commented on how "lovely" the banquet and reception was. She thanked her committee for all their hard work. Tony will mail the photos to Tena. Trish informed the Board that the University purchased large columns that are housed in Dr. Harper's offices.
  8. 50 Year Club- Ann and the committee have chosen the menu. Sara and Louise called past attendees and eligible 50 Year members to increase attendance. The luncheon is scheduled for this Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  9. Golf Classic- The Golf Classic is two weeks from today. Walt presented the polo shirt that will be given as this year's gift. ALFA and Taco Bell are corporate sponsors, \$1000 donation each. Their logos will be embroidered on the sleeves. Walt requested each member to solicit door prizes. Committee members have been given assigned tasks for this year's Classic. Jerry Evans will provide lunch and Pepsi will provide golfer refreshments.
  10. Flag Day- The Community Band and Clear Title will perform again. Lisa is working on obtaining a guest speaker. She will call a committee meeting in the near future and would like to address a larger budget due to Rotary attendance. Guy and Lisa will also start on publicity soon.
  11. Bridge Benefit- Tressie has started preparations to print new scorecards, etc. She will work with Tena and Classic Catering on the food order. The Optimist Club will provide a high-production coffee maker to alleviate problems from last year. Walt suggested that all door prizes displayed be given out. Tressie agreed.
  12. New Business
    - o (Old Business) Jill and Jerry Bartlett Gift- A motion passed to donate \$1000 to the Jill and Jerry Bartlett Endowed Scholarship. Kay suggested a presentation of the gift at Dr. Bartlett's retirement reception on Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. Trish/Tena will check with Rick. Invitations to the reception should be mailed out shortly.
    - o Presidential Search Committee- Walt reviewed the process to date and invited board members to the Candidate Reception on Monday, May

12<sup>th</sup> from 5-6:30 in the Ballroom. He also solicited questions for the committee to review and possibly incorporate into their interview process. A discussion regarding background/reference checks commenced. Walt reported that a private firm was responsible for that portion of the process. Once the committee interviews the top (5) five candidates, they will present (3) three candidates to Chancellor Byrne who will then present one candidate to the State Board. If all parties involved accept the candidate, the announcement will be made by May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- Storage- Jerry Bradford has allotted one of the Hargrove houses to the Alumni Association once renovations are complete and the current residents have moved out. This way all Alumni property can be kept at one location.
- Alternate Board Title- Walt asked Board members to think of an honorary/emeritus title that could be given to long serving members that are unable to actively participate. The Bylaws committee was requested to review the current Bylaws for possibilities. Other Alumni Associations will be researched to see what options are available.

13. Adjournment was at 6:18 p.m.