



Board of Directors Minutes September 4, 2008

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

Members not present: Margaret Kaucher and Jeff Bass

Ex-Officio Members Present: Dr. Bob Glenn (University President) and Rick Mould (Director)

Also in Attendance: Tricia Di Lullo (Alumni Secretary)

1. Welcome- Walt Merritt, called the meeting to order at 5:14 p.m. He introduced Dr. Bob Glen and Sunny Parker to the board.
2. State of Athens State University- Dr. Glenn gave a brief introduction and went over some of his plans for the future.
 - The University will pursue three Masters programs to include Religion, Library Media and Human Resources. Logistics, Procurement and Enterprise Resource Programming may be pursued at a later date.
 - Online education is here to stay. How will we use it to provide quality education? Dr. Betts will form a task force to take on those issues.
 - He would like to develop and maintain relationships with the community and engage the Alumni to bring them back to campus.
 - John McLain asked what programs are online. Answer: CIS, Business and Religion are entirely online. Others are partly online. Dr. Glenn reinforced that some programs should never be online.
 - Robin Clem asked if sports would be reinstated. Answer: I can't answer that at the moment. I favor it but would they be scholarship or non-scholarship?
 - Don Entrekin commented on the low quality of online student teachers; Sunny Parker reinforced this sentiment. The discussion was closed due to time constraints.
 - Sunny Parker introduced herself and spoke on upcoming SGA events. They are trying to target on-campus day/evening and online students with the Welcome Back Week activities.

3. Minutes- The minutes from May 1, 2008 were approved.
4. Financial Report- Jim went over the financial report, scholarship investments, and budget. He moved \$30,000 into a CD yielding 4.25%. The financial report was approved.
5. Fiddlers Committee Report- Tony reported that the committee may use Starbucks coffee and coffee supplies. Nestle Toll House Café quoted rates but due to keeping the funding separate and the pricing the committee decided not to use them. They will not be doing gumbo or chili this year. There will be a Health Dept. class during the week of Sept. 22nd that Walt will attend. Betty Ruth requested an increase in both the cup size and cost in the Coke Trailer. Ring tickets and photos were given to each member as well as Fiddlers entry tickets. The committee asked for all baked goods to be packaged before bringing them. Kay and Anita met with Calvin Spurlin regarding an ornament fundraiser. They presented a sample bell with a raised "2008" that would cost \$15 and sell for \$30. Anita motioned for the decision to be made by the Executive Board. The motion passed with 12 in favor, 4 opposed and 1 abstained. Sunny questioned the affordability for students. Mike asked if they could be here on time.
6. Christmas Committee Report- The Parlour decorating is scheduled for Thursday, November 20, 2008 after the next meeting. The concert is scheduled for Sunday, December 7, 2008 in McCandless. The Alumni Association will provide refreshments in the Parlour afterwards. The Executive Committee would like to invest in outdoor decorations by Christmas 2009. Question: When will McCandless come up for renovation? Answer: Unknown at this time but not expected before the end of the year. The President's Home renovation is expected to take two years.
7. Executive Committee Report- Mack Vinson sent a thank you card for the snack basket that was sent. Angie Thompson sent a thank you letter for receiving the Dr. Angie Nazaretian Alumni Scholarship. Tena Bullington conveyed her thanks in a message to the Board for the plant that was sent to her husband, Roger, while he was in the hospital. Charles Seifried resigned; all nominations for replacements need to be sent to Anita. Events and Meeting calendars were attached to the packet. The Executive Committee motioned for the Finance Chair, Jim Miner, to be added to the Executive Committee. The motion was approved. Walt made a motion for Robin Clem (Chair), Janet Smith, Louise Steele, and Betty Ruth to review an Emeritus Board Member position. The motion was approved. Trish also gave Robin information on a Patron position that would allow non-graduate family, friends, faculty, and staff of Athens State University to join.
8. Foundation Board Report- The meeting went well.
9. Scholarships- Robin went over the recent search for scholarship recipients. It has become increasingly difficult to find eligible family members of graduates. Robin motioned for the deletion of a family relationship and to follow the guidelines of the Geraldine Whitt application requiring a 3.25 GPA, a paragraph on why, and a paragraph on need. The motion was approved. John asked if scholarships were paid out of interest. Answer: Not in all cases. Some were paid from interest,

some from tag money, and some from revenue. The Board would like the attached list of recipients to include the hometown.

10. Golf Classic Report- The original Golf Classic date was rained out and it was moved to the following Monday. Canebrake will continue to handle the Alumni Golf Classic even though management/ownership has changed. They have made a verbal commitment to make sure we make at least a \$9000 profit to fund three \$3000 scholarships for 2009. Walt may do away with door prizes but continue hole and corporate sponsorships. The tournament may have a morning and afternoon session next year. Kay commented on what a great job the committee did. Betty Ruth liked the tent and would like to use one next year.
11. Flag Day Report- Lisa thanked her committee for all their hard work, especially Chad's efforts to arrange the Chinook. Next years event is tentatively scheduled for June 12, 2009.
12. Bridge Benefit Report- There were fewer players this year so revenue was down. Louise would like to go back to using prints as gifts.
13. Old Business
 - Rick Mould thanked the Board for purchasing the podiums and commented on how great they look.
14. New Business
 - Louise Steele donated a truck to the University that is being used by maintenance.
 - George Parint, Class of 1943, walked at Summer Commencement. He was unable to walk when he graduated due to military obligations.
 - The Alumni Awards Banquet is scheduled for April 3-4, 2009, reception location TBD. Tony was thanked for taking and developing the photos for the 2008 Banquet.
15. Adjournment was at 7:05 p.m.