

SAINT FRANCIS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

SATURDAY August 8, 2020: 9:00AM

“VIRTUAL MEETING”

Attendees: Fred Sauers (Secretary), Eric Horell (Director: Alumni Engagement), Tibbins Gunsallus, Nancy McCreary Waters, Barrie (Bogus) Brancato, Bryce Cossitor, Michael Vaughn, Kurt Hoffman, Kilee Bomgardner, Gerry Ferrin (Treasurer), Chelsea Crandall, Tony Evangelista, Tim Hamilton, Anita (Fusco) Baumann, Maria Pellegrino-Yokitis, Steve Martynuska, Elisha Yin, Anthony Sanford, Kathy (Friar) Kross, Sharon Hoffman (President), Cecelia Bologna, Mollie (Rogers) Rovnak, Jeanette Burrell.

Absent:

Lauren Kessler, David Kozak (Vice-President), Noah Langer, Rita (Thievon) Mullin.

DISCUSSIONS

1. Meeting was called to order at 9:00AM by Sharon Hoffman and began with the opening prayer.
2. First item for discussion was consideration of the days **Agenda** which was then approved by the BOD.
3. **Minutes** of the **06/20/2020** meeting were approved.
4. The **Treasurer’s Report** review was then held. Eric reported we were going in to the new FY in very good financial position with \$25,000 in retained earnings. Still trying to determine what triggered an “abnormal” July increase in memberships and then adopt that as a BDP for future use (Facebook? Other?) Will look further into the mandates for funding of the Alumni scholarships and if there are sufficient travel expenses planned for. The FY20/21 budget has been approved (see attached).
5. **New Business:**
 - a. Eric reported that he attended several other schools “attempts” at virtual annual association meetings and they did not go very well with the communications technology that was available. Decision is made that SFU would publish an annual association meeting summary report instead. Eric will send out to the BOD for review and comment prior to release to the Association members.

b. Fall sports at SFU has been postponed by the NEC. Athletic scholarships are still being honored. Further review by the NEC will continue thru the Fall to determine if sports can be resumed during 2020.

c. Homecoming and the 2020 Graduation events are still TBD. Founders Day has been cancelled. The BOD expressed concern that we should find a way to keep our Alumni in contact with the University thru all of these disruptions to our normal engagement activities and events. Eric will discuss with Marie to determine if there are other options we could consider.

6. Continuing Business:

a. **Alumni Board Elections:** We welcome three new members to the BOD. Sean Keefe '96 (West VA.), Timothy Hornick '15 (Johnstown) and Andrew Baughman '13 (Altoona) This is the last meeting of the current BOD and the new BOD members will take their positions at the October meeting.

b. **Board Officer elections:** Sharon, Dave and Jerry will continue in their positions as President, VP and Treasurer respectively. Nancy Waters has accepted the position as the new Secretary.

7. Alumni Engagement Office:

a. All Alumni on-campus events have been cancelled for the Fall. These will be reconsidered in the Spring 2021.

b. We are planning to try and hold one virtual event each month for our Alumni. This will start with a pre-recorded virtual "Wine Seminar" conducted by Phil Tartaglione on December 4 and then possibly a presentation from Santa in December.

c. Our next BOB meeting will be in October. Eric is trying to hold this on campus but must first try and find a location large enough to practice social distancing for those who wish to come to campus. Remote access will continue to be available for those who do not wish to travel.

d. Francis Worldwide has been a success and will continue to be offered as on-line "non-credit" courses to our Alumni.

e. Last new issue was to reconsider if the BOD would resume "Lifetime Memberships" at \$300 each. Need to discuss further at future meetings.

8. Committee reports:

a. Tib has requested that we include recruiting efforts for local chapters in our annual newsletter. Nancy also wants to promote the use of "Prayer Groups" for our local Alumni.

b. Admissions: No report today

c. Networking: Preparing an update for the next meeting and encourages all BOD member to consider joining "Alumni Fire".

d. Marketing: No report today. Still planning meetings to discuss new approaches to improvements.

9. Open Issues Still To Be Discussed: (Previous Meeting)

a. SFU is considering what types of recognitions ceremonies it could plan to honor **Maurice Stokes** this year. More to come as options are proposed. Anthony suggested that we contact the NBA to see if there would be any participation interest from that organization. Need to consider the fee's associated with that type of involvement.

b. Suggestions were made on how to compensate for no AW this year for the benefit of our Alumni. Nancy suggested video snippets of the new JFK building, campus tours, etc. Also setting up webinars for all to join including topics like Phil's wine tasting presentations, etc.

c. Kathy Kross suggested continuing with the "virtual mass" as that helps keep our Alumni connected to the campus during these "social distance" times.

d. Anthony raised the issue concerning a "Juneteenth" Instagram posting that was associated with SFU. SFU response to diversity initiatives is now underway.

10. Next Meetings will be **October 10, 2020**. Stay tuned for meeting options for remote and on-campus participation. This meeting was adjourned at 10:20AM.

SFU AABOD MEETING MINUTES 08082020.doc