

**SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE FOUNDATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
HOTEL JACARANDA  
NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

**Members Present:**

Judge Heather Beato	Mr. Robert Duncan	Mr. Don Elwell
Dr. Darrell Jensen	Mr. Michael Kelly	Mr. Andrew Santos
Dr. George Mousa		

**Excused:**

Mr. Corey Allain	Mrs. Sandee Braxton	Ms. Cheryl Brown
Judge Angela Cowden	Dr. Catherine Cornelius	Mr. Fred Hawkins
Mrs. Patricia Manderville	Dr. Vinod Thakkar	Mrs. Robin Weeks
Mrs. Kris Rider	Mrs. Peggy Sueppel	

**Present:**

Mrs. Jamie Bateman	Mrs. Anastasia Fuchser	Miss Taylor Massey
Mrs. Teresa Vorous	Mr. Peter Elliott	Mr. Bob Swaine
Dr. Benjamin Carter	Mrs. June Weyrauch	Mr. Daniel Sanches
Dr. Kathleen Cappel	Dr. Deborah Milliken	

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

At 5:30 p.m., Mr. Elwell, President, called to order the meeting of the South Florida State College Foundation. Mr. Elwell asked for a motion to accept the amended agenda of the November 14, 2023 meeting. Dr. Jensen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kelly to approve the amended agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Elwell asked for a review of the minutes from the September 12, 2023 meeting. Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Dr. Jensen to accept the meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Mrs. Vorous reviewed the Consolidated Balance sheet, the Investment Returns, and the Statement of Activities as of September 30, 2023. There were no questions or concerns. Dr. Jensen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kelly to accept the financial reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**IV. WARRANT LIST**

Mrs. Weeks was unable to attend the meeting. Dr. Jensen reviewed the Warrant List from August 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023. There were no questions.

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**V. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Hawkins was unable to attend the meeting so there were no comments.

**VI. FOUNDATION UPDATES**

- a. Mrs. Bateman reviewed the upcoming Foundation events and meetings. The next Foundation Board meeting will be on Tuesday, January 9 at noon in the board room on the Highlands campus.
- b. The recipients of the Endowed Teaching Chair, Mr. Daniel Sanches, Dr. Kathleen Cappel, and Dr. Deborah Milliken presented to the board their mid-term reports. Each of the recipients shared the benefits of their endowed chair activities. Mrs. Peggy Sueppel was unable to attend the meeting.
- c. Mrs. Bateman is traveling to Tallahassee this week for conferences and meetings with our lobbyist, Keaton Griffin with The Griffin Group. Mrs. Bateman received confirmation from Mrs. Griffin that the appropriation requests have been submitted. She has requested \$3.2 million for the driving course, \$1,975,000 for the Dental Education Clinic, and an increase to base funding by taking last year's \$3 million nonrecurring and adding to the \$3 million recurring.

Mrs. Bateman did not receive approval from the Highlands County Board of County Commissioners to have Highlands County listed as an area of critical concern to build the dorms. She is working with Chancellor Hebda and other rural colleges to change the bill that includes language that identifies rural serving colleges with the ability to own and operate dorms on campus. The state restrictions will still not allow colleges to use fund 1 state funds to operate the dorms, this will still need to be managed by the Foundation. Mrs. Bateman mentioned that the second alternative would be to continue with the second DSO. If we proceed, and the statute goes through, we could dissolve the DSO.

- d. The Hotel Jacaranda has welcomed two new members to the maintenance team, Frank and Patrick. They have done a great job and we are very grateful to have them.

On September 20, an incident with a long-term hotel guest resulted in flooding in multiple offices in the arcade area including the Foundation and Take Stock in Children offices, the new conference room, and Edward Jones's office. There is currently \$63,000 in total damage. Due to the water damage from the incident, Take Stock in Children staff have moved to the Highlands campus. Since the hotel incident, the hotel has experienced hot water issues that we thought may be related to the loss of water and the pressure through the sprinkler. C&C Plumbing and Repair came by to take a look at it and was able to fix the issue.

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A locally owned coffee shop would like to rent the Ward Room in the hotel lobby. Mrs. Bateman has discussed with the tenant that their rent for the first few months will go towards their remodel to get them on their feet. The new private conference room has been moved to The Artist Group's old studio in the arcade.

The hotel manager, Mr. Bruns, and the front desk manager, Ms. Simmons are currently in the Foundation's old conference room since their offices are in the process of being repaired due to Hurricane Ian. Once the construction is complete, we can bring in more commercial tenants. Mrs. Bateman shared that there are multiple businesses interested in renting available space in the hotel.

- e. Mrs. Bateman received the appraisals for the Larry Johnson and Dr. Charles McLochlin Estates. The Johnson property is valued at \$293,000 and the McLochlin's is valued at \$165,000.

Mrs. Bateman reminded the board that they originally approved to sell the Johnson property as a whole however, she had not confirmed with the tenant if he was still interested in the property. Mrs. Bateman shared that there are a few people who are interested in the house, the shop, and the lot next to the shop. She asked the board members if they would like to sell the entire property, split it into pieces, and how much they would like to sell it for.

Mrs. Bateman met with Mr. Mike Rohrer with the Sebring EAA and gathered all of the airplane pieces and materials from Dr. McLochlin's home to donate to their program at Sebring High School. Once our maintenance department clears out the home then the Foundation will put it up for sale. Mrs. Bateman has spoken with Mrs. Dawn Dell and Mrs. Nancy McDuffee who are both willing to help us with the sales.

After further discussion among the board, Mr. Duncan offered to purchase Larry Johnson's property for \$293,000 if Mr. Swaine confirmed that there was no conflict of interest. Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Dr. Jensen to allow Mrs. Bateman to move forward with Mr. Duncan on the sale of Larry Johnson's property. Mr. Duncan abstained from the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Bateman asked with board direction, to speak with Realtor, Dawn Dell to work and facilitate the sale of Dr. Charles McLochlin's estate. Dr. Jensen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Santos to accept the motion as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

- f. Mrs. Bateman shared a potential naming opportunity with the board. She suggested using Dr. McLochlin's unrestricted funds or a portion of the funds to assist students during their time of need with emergency funds. It could be used to

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purchase gas cards, grocery cards, daycare vouchers, etc. for students who are in need. Mr. Santos recommended the Foundation keep track of how much of the funds have been used and what they have been used for. After further discussion, Dr. Jensen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Santos to allow Mrs. Bateman to create an emergency fund for students with a 4% spending limit. The motion passed unanimously.

- g. Mrs. Bateman received a check from the William G. and Marie Selby Foundation for a \$6,000 grant with a \$6,000 match from the Foundation using donor funds. The grant is to be used to award a scholarship to a DeSoto County resident and graduate of DeSoto County High School who is enrolled in a degree program at the SFSC DeSoto campus.

## **VII. GRANTS UPDATE**

Mrs. Weyrauch gave an overall detailed report of the grants that she is currently working on and those that have been submitted and awarded this year. Since August, she has submitted 8 grants for a total of \$989,000.

Mrs. Weyrauch had the opportunity to attend the 2023 ATE Principal Investigators' conference in Washington, D.C. alongside Mrs. Bateman from October 25 through October 27. She shared that the experience was nothing short of transformative and had broadened her perspective and equipped her with valuable insights and many networking opportunities.

## **VIII. TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN**

Dr. Carter shared with the board that they are currently serving 112 students within Highlands, Hardee, and DeSoto counties. In early November, Dr. Carter and his team passed out 1,000 Take Stock in Children applications among all of the schools in the 3 counties. In May, they will have 30 students who are graduating high school and attending college. Dr. Carter announced that one of their students has been selected as a candidate for Leaders of Life to receive a \$40,000 scholarship.

Mr. Duncan, a mentor for Take Stock in Children shared that Dr. Carter and Mrs. Dolores Breedlove are doing an incredible job and he is amazed with the Take Stock in Children program.

## **IX. ALUMNI RELATIONS AND OUTREACH**

Mrs. Fuchser shared the student spotlight of the month, Rigenst. A father of four children in the nursing program and is living the American Dream. Mrs. Fuchser invited the board to attend the Foundation's Jacaranda Jubilee on November 27 and the Christmas Luncheon on December 7. She thanked Mrs. Christy Crews with

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Sandhill Grill for sponsoring the beer and wine at both events. She also thanked Mrs. Dawn Dell and Dr. Cornelius for sponsoring the Christmas Luncheon this year.

Mrs. Fuchser shared with the board her Giving Tuesday campaign. She has created a lineup of graphics, and videos with staff, students, alumni, and community members to share through social media and emails. She received the first donation from First Place Insurance of Lake Placid. She thanked them for their support, and for their focus to support a veteran through the donation.

On October 18, Mrs. Fuchser and Mrs. Bateman wrapped up donor lunches with Dr. Cornelius and were very excited to have one recipient of the Dr. Catherine Cornelius Endowed Scholarship join them at Kelly's Bistro.

On November 9, Mrs. Fuchser met with 12 students on the Highlands Campus for Young Alumni at Kelly's Bistro. The last meetup for the year will be on December 1 with students from the Health Sciences building on the Highlands campus. She plans to have Christmas cookies and cornhole for students to enjoy.

Mrs. Fuchser has reached out and connected with local businesses for 2024 annual sponsorships. Mrs. Fuchser thanked AdventHealth for their Platinum partnership for the upcoming year.

**X. TIME FOR DIRECTORS**

If Mr. Swaine confirms that there is no conflict of interest between Mr. Duncan and the Foundation, Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Dr. Jensen to allow Mrs. Bateman to sign authorized documents and contract for the Larry Johnson Estate. Mr. Duncan abstained from the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Santos and Dr. Mousa introduced themselves to the Board as the newest members. Mr. Santos shared that he is very excited to be a part of the Board and the partnership between AdventHealth and the Foundation.

Mr. Elwell asked if there were any additional questions, comments, or concerns. There were none.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Mr. Elwell adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Michael Kelly*

Board Secretary