

SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
HOTEL JACARANDA
MAY 14, 2024

Members Present:

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

Excused:

Ms. Cheryl Brown	Mrs. Robin Weeks	Ms. Patricia Manderville
Mr. Corey Allain	Dr. Vinod Thakkar	Mrs. Kris Rider
Dr. Benjamin Carter	Dr. Mintoo Patel	

Others Present:

Mrs. Jamie Bateman	Mrs. Anastasia Fuchser	Miss Taylor Massey
Mr. Peter Elliott	Mrs. Teresa Vorous	Mrs. April Ricker
Mr. Mark Cox	Mr. Bob Swaine	Mrs. Therese Tippie
Dr. Kate Calvin	Mrs. Candra Polk	Dr. Daniel Sanches
Mrs. June Weyrauch	Dr. Kathleen Cappel	Mr. Marc Valero

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 requested a motion to accept the agenda of the May 14, 2024 meeting. Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Dr. Jensen to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Bateman asked the Board for 2024-26 officer nominations or recommendations. Mrs. Fuchser passed out ballots for the members to vote.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Elwell requested a review of the March 5, 2024, Foundation Board meeting minutes. Mr. Kelly made a motion, seconded by Mr. Santos to accept the meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

III. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mrs. Vorous reviewed the Investment Report through March 31, 2024. Mrs. Bateman reviewed the Gift Summary Report from March 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024. There were no questions or concerns. Dr. Cornelius made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kelly to accept the financial reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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IV. WARRANT LIST

Mrs. Weeks was unable to attend the meeting. Dr. Jensen reviewed the Warrant List from January 1, 2024, through March 31, 2024. There were no questions. Dr. Cornelius made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kelly to accept the Warrant List as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

V. 2023 FINANCIAL AUDIT

Mr. Mark Cox from Wicks, Brown, Williams, & Co., CPA's LLP presented the 2023 Financial Audit to the Board. Mr. Cox reported no issues or findings. Mr. Cox asked if there were any questions or concerns. There were none. Dr. Jensen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Santos to accept the 2023 Financial Audit as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. FOUNDATION RECERTIFICATION

Mrs. Bateman requested a motion to present the Foundation Recertification to the District Board of Trustees in June. Mr. Santos made a motion, seconded by Dr. Jensen to accept the motion as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. ENDOWED CHAIR PRESENTATIONS

a. Dr. Daniel Sanches, the receipt for the 2022-24 Norm and Laurie Stephens Endowed Teaching Chair, and Dr. Kathleen Cappel, the receipt of the Highlands County Health Facilities Authority Endowed Chair for Nursing Education presented to the Board an overview of their Endowed Chair project and final report.

b. Mrs. Bateman introduced the new 2024-26 Endowed Chair Recipients as follows: Dr. Mintoo Patel, Bill and Lisa Endowed Teaching Chair in Business; Dr. Kate Calvin, Norm and Laurie Stephens Endowed Teaching Chair; Mrs. Candra Polk, Highlands County Health Facilities Authority Endowed Chair for Nursing Education; and Mrs. Therese Tippie, Highlands County Health Facilities Authority Endowed Chair for Dental Education.

Mrs. Tippie, Dr. Calvin, and Mrs. Polk presented their project to the Board and their plans for the funding. Dr. Patel could not attend the meeting however, she plans to present her project and plan to the Board in September.

VIII. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Hawkins shared that there were 298 students out of the 492 who participated in the Spring Commencement Ceremony last week with two outstanding student speakers. He thanked the college staff and faculty for attending the two ceremonies.

Mr. Hawkins announced that the college was awarded the Military Friendly School award this year and thanked Mr. Rob Hampton for his efforts.

Mr. Hawkins congratulated the Lady Panther Softball team on placing runners-up at their championship last week. With the softball team leaving on the morning of Commencement to travel to Alabama, the college's leader team and Mr. Carlos Falla, the softball head coach surprised the graduating softball players with a virtual commencement ceremony and their diplomas.

Mr. Hawkins shared that the college's new strategic plan has been finalized and will be presented to the District Board of Trustees on May 15 during their annual budget workshop.

IX. GRANTS UPDATE

Mrs. Weyrauch shared with the Board that the college has been awarded \$200,000 from the Florida Department of Education for Nursing Education, \$37,040 from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for the Criminal Justice program, and \$299,999 from the National Science Foundation for the science department. Since the last Foundation Board meeting on March 6, Mrs. Weyrauch has submitted 7 grants with an overall award total of \$959,079.

Mrs. Weyrauch attended the Florida Council for Resource Development Conference (FCRD) at Miami-Dade College with Mrs. Bateman and Miss Massey on April 10-11, 2024. She shared that it was a great networking opportunity and had many takeaways from each session. Mrs. Weyrauch joined the FCRD Communications Committee and was put in charge of the newsletter.

Mrs. Weyrauch announced a new Grants and Resource Development page on the college's website to highlight the college's grants awarded for Fiscal Year 2023-24.

X. TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN

Dr. Carter was unable to attend the meeting. Mrs. Bateman shared that Take Stock in Children has 23 seniors graduating high school this year and recruited 45 new students from the local middle schools for 2024-25. In addition, there were 3 students approved for the FPL STEM scholarships and 2 for Workforce scholarships.

Mrs. Bateman invited the Board to attend the contract signing events held at each of the three SFSC college campuses on May 20-23, 2024.

XI. FOUNDATION UPDATES

- a.** Mrs. Bateman reviewed the master calendar and proposed meeting dates, times, and locations for the 2024-25 Foundation Board meetings. Mrs. Bateman suggested a Zoom option for the Executive Committee meeting. Dr. Jensen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Santos to accept the proposed meeting dates and times with Executive Committee meetings being held via Zoom.
- b.** Mrs. Bateman shared the South Florida State College Performing Arts sponsorship opportunities and benefits for 2024-25. Dr. Cornelius made a motion, seconded by Dr. Jensen to approve the SFSC Performing Arts sponsorship of \$5,000. The motion passed unanimously.
- c.** Mrs. Bateman presented the lease agreement between the Hotel Jacaranda and South Florida State College to the Board members for approval. It is \$7,044 a month to lease the hotel and restaurant for classrooms, laboratories, offices, and other ancillary spaces as needed for college-sponsored programs. Mr. Kelly asked if the lease agreement would affect the sale of the hotel. Mr. Swaine confirmed the buyer would be subject to the lease. Dr. Cornelius made a motion, seconded by Dr. Jensen to accept the lease agreement as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- d.** Mrs. Bateman recognized the members stepping off of the Board and asked for the names of their replacements or recommendations by June 1. Mrs. Bateman will schedule to meet with the individuals and will present them to the Board for approval in September.
- e.** Mrs. Bateman welcomed the Sebring Soap Company, a new tenant of the Hotel Jacaranda. Mrs. Bateman shared a photo with the Board from their Grand Opening yesterday, May 13. Mrs. Bateman is meeting with the potential buyer of the Hotel Jacaranda and their realtor this Friday, May 17 with Mr. Elliott and Mrs. Vorous.
- f.** There are no Appropriation or Tallahassee updates during this time.
- g.** Mrs. Bateman received an offer of \$130,000 for Dr. McLochlin's residence and is currently under contract. Mr. Elwell and Mrs. Bateman will close on the house next Wednesday, May 22.
- h.** Mrs. Bateman shared that she would like to have a company conduct a Feasibility Study before the Foundation begins a capital campaign next year to fundraise for on-campus student housing. She mentioned that the Feasibility Study would allow the Foundation to understand how the community feels about the college and seek ways of how the Foundation should approach the community for housing.

XII. ALUMNI RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Mrs. Fuchser shared the student spotlight of the month, Andrew. He is in his first year of the Radiography program at SFSC to become a licensed radiology technologist to help patients and his community. Andrew is a full-time student, working part-time, and supporting his son who is also in his first year of college.

a. Mrs. Fuchser shared that approximately 298 students out of 492 met students participated in the Spring Commencement Ceremony on May 7. Two ceremonies included 120 Associates in Arts, 56 Associates in Science, 15 Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management, 5 Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 12 Bachelor of Science in Elementary Teacher Education, 15 State of Florida High School Diplomas, and 72 Career and College Credit Certificates.

b. On May 1, Mrs. Fuchser met with the Foundation's Silver Annual Sponsor, Mosaic for a Panther Partner Lunch and Tour to discuss the degrees and programs that the college has that could benefit them. Mosaic would like their talent teams to come and speak to our classes and share the job opportunities with them.

On May 9, Mrs. Fuchser hosted another Panther Partner Lunch and Tour with a few individuals and local businesses in DeSoto County to tour the SFSC DeSoto campus. Mrs. Fuchser has a follow-up meeting and tour with a potential scholarship donor and his friend who expressed interest in creating a scholarship for our technical and trade programs for DeSoto County students.

c. Mrs. Fuchser invited the Board to attend the Gatsby's Getaway at the Jac, celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the SFSC Foundation and 100 years of the Hotel Jacaranda on June 13. As of this week, Mrs. Fuchser shared we have 2 Flapper sponsors, 1 Jazz Singer sponsor, 1 Cat's Meow sponsor, 1 silent auction donation, and 10 tickets sold.

Mrs. Fuchser announced that the college is hosting the Avon Park Chamber of Commerce Luncheon next Thursday, May 23 at the Hotel Jacaranda.

The next Alumni networking event will be held at the Beef O' Brady's in Hardee on July 9 and the Sebring Soda Shop and Ice Cream Works on October 10.

XIII. TIME FOR DIRECTORS

Mrs. Bateman recognized the following Board members for their service: Mr. Kelly, Mr. Duncan, Mrs. Weeks, Judge Cowden, and Ms. Manderville. Mrs. Bateman thanked Mr. Elwell for all he has done for the Foundation in the past two years as Board President.

The new officers are Dr. Jensen, President; Mrs. Brown, Vice President; Mr. Elwell, Treasurer; and Dr. Mousa, Secretary. Judge Beato made a motion, seconded by Mr. Santos to approve the new 2024-25 officers as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Mr. Elwell adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. George Mousa
Board Secretary