

SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
BOARD ROOM, SFSC HIGHLANDS
MARCH 5, 2025

Members Present:

Ms. Julie Barber	Judge Heather Beato	Mrs. Cheryl Brown
Mr. Don Elwell	Mr. Parker Hall	Mrs. Lisa Jarrett
Dr. George Mousa		

Excused:

Mr. Rick Bateman	Mrs. Taylor Buenerkemper	Dr. Benjamin Carter
Dr. Catherine Cornelius	Mr. Devon Donaldson	Mr. Fred Hawkins
Dr. Michelle Heston	Dr. Darrell Jensen	Mr. Bob Swaine
Dr. Vinod Thakkar		

Others Present:

Mrs. Jamie Bateman	Mr. Peter Elliott	Mrs. Anastasia Fuchser
Mrs. Teresa Vorous	Mrs. June Weyrauch	

I. CALL TO ORDER

At 5:32 p.m., Mrs. Brown, Vice President, called to order the meeting of the South Florida State College Foundation. Mr. Don Elwell made a motion to adopt the agenda of the regular meeting of March 4, 2025, seconded by Mr. Parker Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Brown requested a review of the January 14, 2024, Foundation Board meeting minutes. Mrs. Lisa Jarrett made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2025, Board of Directors meeting, seconded by Judge Beato. The motion carried unanimously.

III. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mrs. Vorous reviewed the Investment Returns and shared that the Balance Sheet and Statement of Activities would be finalized and presented at the May Board Meeting. Mrs. Vorous and Mrs. Bateman reviewed the status of the funds transfer from Bank of America to South Street Advisors and shared that there was a delay on behalf of Bank of America. Mrs. Cheryl Brown reviewed the routine process of a CATS funds transfer and advised that due to the delay in the funds transfer due to Bank of America, she would advise a formal complaint. Ms. Barber made a motion to submit a formal complaint requesting details as to why the delay in funds transfer from Bank of America to South Street Advisors, seconded by Mr. Ewell. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bateman reviewed the Gift Summary Report from January 1, 2025, through February 28, 2025. There were no questions or concerns. Mr. Elwell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hall, to approve the Financial Reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. WARRANT LIST

Mr. Elwell reviewed the Warrant List from December 1, 2024, through January 31, 2025. There were no questions or concerns. Mr. Hall made a motion, seconded by Ms. Barber, to accept the Warrant List as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

V. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Hawkins was not able to attend, so there were no comments.

VI. GRANTS UPDATE

Mrs. June Weyrauch shared and reviewed the status of grants as follows: three (3) grants waiting for a proposal, five (5) grants submitted, and five (5) grants awarded since the beginning of December 2024 in a total amount of \$255,001. She shared that the total FY25 grants to date are \$2,564,633.

Mrs. June Weyrauch highlighted three (3) local grants as follows:

- Sebring Walmart supported the SFSC Arts Show, the Ugly Duckling, for over 1,100 elementary school children who attended and enjoyed the show with \$1,001 grant.
- AdventHealth matching grant with FLDOE for the Linking Industry Nursing Education grant with \$200,000
- Duke Energy Grant in support of our Lineworker program with a \$50,000 grant.

Mrs. June Weyrauch provided an update on the overall grants culture coming through the executive orders from the White House. She is continuing to stay updated through communications and webinars, etc., and working through different grants requesting re-writes as well as waiting to see other opportunities that come available. This grants season is slower than normal, due to this, SFSC may look to rely and focus more on foundation grants and State of Florida Education grant opportunities.

VII. TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN

Dr. Ben Carter was not able to attend however, Mrs. Jamie Bateman provided an update that TSIC is continuing to recruit students and mentors for this program. She shared that there is an opportunity to partner with the Sarasota County TSIC office for DeSoto County students, which already has the approval from the TSIC state office. Mrs. Bateman and Dr. Carter will be meeting to finalize this plan and partnership.

VIII. FOUNDATION UPDATES

- a. Mrs. Bateman shared a review of the master calendar and the upcoming Foundation events. She emphasized the upcoming Learning & Legacy Gala and encouraged participation from all Board members.
- b. Mrs. Bateman shared that in May 2025, Mr. Elwell's and Dr. Thakkar's board service will conclude due to term limits. She thanked them both for their time, service, and support, and will be working with both of them to find a suitable replacement. Mrs. Bateman corrected the agenda, sharing that the Officer Elections in May will be for 2026, as officer positions are every two (2) years.
- c. Mrs. Bateman shared that the Foundation had an opportunity to give a campus tour with Strathmore Real Estate Group, which is associated with the Lakeshore Mall renovations, and within that tour, shared with this group the need for dorms on campus. Mr. Terry Benton was impressed with the college and his interest was peaked, which led to a call with his team going over the dorm needs as well as the Hotel Jacaranda. Further discussions with this party are continuing, and Mrs. Bateman will keep the Board informed.
- d. Mrs. Bateman is waiting to hear back from the realtor group, Marcus Millichap, about the Hotel Jacaranda. Mrs. Bateman plans to follow up with them and will keep the Board updated.
- e. Mrs. Bateman shared that District Board of Trustees members had the opportunity to tour Tallahassee and meet with legislators. She shared the college's Appropriation Requests for this year: \$950,000 for the Revitalization of the Hotel Jacaranda, \$3,750,000 for the Driver Training Facility, and \$3,000,000 for Enduring Impact.
- f. Mrs. Bateman shared that the Capital Campaign is on hold until more of the plan, design, and costs for the dorm build come into play. This will allow for the marketing and design plan for the campaign.
- g. Mrs. Bateman shared that the SFSC Foundation hosted the Florida Council Resource Development (FCRD) Conference last Wednesday-Friday on campus. This council is comprised of the grants and foundation staff within the 28-state college system; 19 of the 28 colleges had attendees, with over 87 total attendees on campus. They enjoyed our campus and our community.

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IX. ALUMNI RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- a. Mrs. Fuchser showcased the Scholarship Spotlight, Meet Makayla – she is pursuing her AA in Business Admin and plans to continue her education – she has a goal to be a food service director for the school system. She works full time at an elementary school kitchen and attends school part time. She appreciates the stress relief this scholarship allowed her financially to help with tuition and books.
- b. Mrs. Fuchser shared the Million Dollar Shootout Recap as follows: 106+ participants, including one from Scotland. A female finalist for the first-ever Putt Challenge. The event shows a profit of \$10,433.
- c. Mrs. Fuchser shared the current ticket sales and sponsorship for the Learning & Legacy Gala. She encouraged Board members to assist in promoting the event and encouraging ticket sales and sponsorships.
- d. Mrs. Fuchser updated the Board on the SFSC Gives Back program, with a busy week this week with Read Across America and Medical Supply shipment with Dr. Strathey and his wife, Natu.
- e. Mrs. Fuchser recapped the Alumni Reunion was enjoyable and hopes it expands each year with tailgate games and ball game food. She reminded this group about the Alumni Membership Card program and encouraged them to share it with more businesses and alumni.
- f. Mrs. Fuchser finished up by sharing that Young Alumni had a few more meetups in March and April, including Hardee and DeSoto meetups. This week has been fun for Mrs. Fuchser to participate in and help with College Week festivities, interacting with future alumni.

X. TIME FOR DIRECTORS

Mrs. Cheryl Brown asked the Board if they had any additional questions, comments, or concerns. There were none.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Mrs. Cheryl Brown adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. George Mousa
Board Secretary