

SAINT FRANCIS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

SATURDAY 7/26/2019: 9:00AM

SCHWAB HALL CONFERENCE ROOM 102

Attendees: Sharon Hoffman (President), Gerry Ferrin (Treasurer), Fred Sauers (Secretary), Eric Horell (Director: Alumni Engagement), Tim Hamilton, David Kozak, Tibbins Gunsallus, Noah Langer, Irene (Boyle) Langer, Nancy McCreary Waters, Anthony Sanford, Barrie (Bogus) Brancato, Bryce Cossitor, Anita (Fusco) Baumann, Michael Vaughn, Elisha Yin, Chelsea Crandall, Kurt Hoffman, Jeanette (Janiszewski) Burrell (E), Theresa Horner, Mollie (Rogers) Rovnak, Maryann (McCarthy) O'Leary (E).

Absent: Kyle Driscoll, Kristin (Boose) Repin, Rita (Thievon) Mullin, Steve Martynuska, Maria Pellegrino-Yokitis.

DISCUSSIONS

1. Meeting was called to order at 9:05AM by Sharon Hoffman and began with the opening prayer.
2. First item for discussion was a brief review of the days agenda (**attached**) which was then approved by the BOD.
3. Since there were not enough online ballots received to approve the April minutes, a vote was held. A motion to approve the meeting minutes from 4/27/19 was held and the BOD approved the documents. Fred asked for an update on the posting of the February and April minutes. Eric will take care of shortly (**NOTE: Once meeting minutes are complete, Fred will release to the BOD for comment and corrections. A two-week MIN review period will be scheduled after which the final revision of the minutes will be released for an online vote of approval.**)
4. The **Treasures Report** review was then held (**attached**). A brief conversation was held concerning the lower than expected budgeted costs for FY 18/19. Only significant cost increase issue was that this year, SFU had five students who achieved a perfect 4.0 which affected the "Gifts & Awards" line item. Eric was asked to find out what the AA actual account balance was at year end. The FY19/20 budget was reviewed, and discussions were held on the new breakouts of deferred income. This was received positively. No other significant budget issues were raised. AA Membership declined slightly from 2018 to 2019 (-9) but the additional 2020 membership was still to be accounted for after alumni weekend.

5. New Business:

a. **Alumni Weekend 2019:** Targeting better than 435 attendees this year. Reviewed the schedule and the BOD assignments for the events. Does not appear that construction had an adverse impact on sign-ups. Comments were made about the excellent signage which will certainly facilitate an easy “adjustment” by our attendees.

b. Sharon made a request for additional volunteers to support the Grotto projects. The “**Lourdes Army**” is in need of extra members and Kathy Kross has also requested funds to provide lunches for these people who work each year to return the Grotto to pristine conditions.

c. Discussion was held regarding a “**Cord of Gratitude**” that graduating students could use to extend their thanks to those who made significant impact on their college careers. In the past this idea was declined but it will be added to the October meeting agenda for more discussion.

d. Tib made a request to improve the BOD website. He suggests that we have pictures as well as a short biography of each BOB member posted on the Alumni web site. This would be in addition to the current practice of providing “LinkedIn” contact information.

NOTE: Does this require a BOD vote for approval?

e. At the Fall orientation for freshmen this year, the new student AA will be introduced. Preparing that presentation and student handouts is now underway.

6. Continuing Business:

a. Three new alumni have been elected to the BOD and will formally join us in October. We welcome Cecelia (Fowler) Bologna '90, Tony Evangelista '81 & Lauren Kesslak '10. Further discussion about the elections have raised the issue of expanding the BOD to 28 so that we can always stay within the 24-28 margin we require for membership. The BOD agreed to proceed with the new MAX at 28. Mike Vaughn was then invited to remain on the BOD and he accepted. An invitation will be also be extended to the one new candidate who did not receive enough votes during the first round. Additional discussion was held regarding meeting attendance (on-site or phone). All agreed to abide by the by-laws and Fred Sauers will prepare a comparison of the last years attendance for review by Sharon and Eric. The Nominating committee will begin work to identify enough candidates to fill the remaining positions to bring us to 28.

b. The **Emeritus** proposal was then reviewed one last time before voting. One line was struck (“**Emeritus status cannot be renounced.....**”) and the current BOD then approved. Next the proposal will be sent to the AA for final approval.

c. The final revision of the **Strategic Plan** was reviewed and then approved by the BOD. In October, new sub-committees will be assigned to address each of the core missions of the plan. The Strategic plan will also be sent to the AA for review and approval.

d. The **Travel Reimbursement** policy for BOD members was discussed and it was decided to leave as is but to revise the form to suggest a portion of the funds be donated back to the scholarship fund. Members are encourage to try and keep personal reimbursements at a minimum.

e. Questions regarding visitor status during an AABOD meeting were resolved. All AABOD meeting will remain "CLOSED" to the **public** unless the AABOD make an invitation to an individual to join us for the necessary discussion of BOD activities.

NOTE: Request further definition of "Public". To be considered at the next meeting.

7. Office of Alumni Engagement:

a. All new BOD meetings for 2019/2020 have now been scheduled. Dates are listed on the meeting agenda. The Winter meeting will be held on Jan 18, 2020.

b. The 2020 Alumni Friends Trip will be to Austria in June 2020. These trips are chosen by the University President and travel suggestions are taken for consideration each year.

c. All 2019/2020 Alumni events are now listed on the agenda for your reference. Discussion included how important it was to have AABOD representation at each of these events to help improve membership levels. Suggestion was to list each of the events on the Alumni website so that volunteers can sign up to attend.

d. The JFK mailbox auction will begin 8/1 with a general announcement to the AA. This will last for the month of August and a MIN bid will be \$50.00. Facebook will be the main social media app used and a general email to announce the auction will also be sent to all AA members.