



NDSCS Foundation Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, as a regular meeting of the Foundation Executive Board of NDSCS, Wahpeton North Dakota, was duly called and held in President Richman's office, on Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 8:00 AM.

The following members were present: Bob Gette, Kelly Hubrig, Roger Richels, Hugh Veit, and Margaret Wall. Josh Dozak, Joel Kaczynski and Kim Nelson attended by conference call. Ex-officio: Dr. John Richman, Michelle Nelson and Melissa Wynn. Those absent: Annette Loken, Linda Hopkins, Chris Johnson.

President Wall welcomed everyone and thanked Bob Gette for his leadership as the Alumni Foundation Board President the past year. She then asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 6, 2019 meeting. President Richman submitted some corrections. Kelly Hubrig made the motion to approve the minutes with the correction, seconded by Bob Gette, the motion passed.

Bob Gette gave updates on the Investment Sub-Committee meeting on July 11, 2019. He reported they reviewed the categories of investment and compared them to the Alumni Foundation Investment Policy. Bell Bank did not recommend any changes to the policy and will give a complete report to the Full Alumni Board in August. The RFP process for selecting a new/ or retaining the current investment agency will begin in September with the agency being announced in January. The amount in the Foundation Investment account as of July 31, 2019 was \$17,897,484. This amount does not include the M. Vertin money.

Michelle Nelson gave the year-end annual operating budget report. The Foundation finished the FY19 Fiscal Year with a \$15,000 roll over.

Michelle also gave the M. Vertin Scholarship update. Eligible first year students may be awarded \$2,000 for the academic year in the Emergency Medical Services, Pharmacy Technician, Registered Nursing, Auto Body Repair and Refinishing Technology, Powersports Technology, Building Construction Technology, Land Surveying and Civil Engineering Technology, and Plumbing programs. The goal is to help low enrollment programs in high demand career areas.

Kim Nelson gave a Challenge Grant status report. She currently has around \$300,000 to put forward for the first round on September 12, 2019.

Kim is also working on the Board Retreat with the goal of developing a 5-year plan for the Alumni Foundation. President Richman recommended contacting Pat Trainer at the Dakota Medical Foundation for suggestions on a retreat facilitator.

Melissa Wynn gave a short update on the Summer Meet and Greets which included the Summit Brewery Event in St. Paul, MN; Killdeer, ND, Evening Social; Ottertail Lakes Area Brunch and the final event of the summer the Hjemkomst Social in Moorhead, MN.

Kim Nelson highlighted the DREAMS package events that had recently taken place. New this year was a progressive pontoon supper that took place on Ottertail Lake. Everyone had a wonderful time. The Twist DREAMS Event in Fargo with President Richman and Marcia also went very well. Upcoming is the third Annual Seafood Boil.

Melissa Wynn did a quick overview of the 2018/2019 Foundation Metrics Report. She noted a few missing numbers in the Major Gift Prospect section for FY15 and FY18 that the office is still investigating. The number of Blikre Society Members is up from 112 to 143, which are those giving a major gift or planned gift over \$10,000 or bequests. The scholarship and student recipients continue to increase.

Dr. Richman addressed the status of the Career Academy. The GFMEDC and the Fargo Moorhead /West Fargo Chamber of Commerce presented a plan for \$15 million in public funding for the Cass County Career Workforce Academy. The proposal to the Cass County Commissioners included a one-mill levy increase to the Capital Projects Fund for the 2020 Cass County budget. They decided to move forward by authorizing the County Administrator to continue discussions with representatives from the Career Workforce Academy Project. The next step is to seek out an Architectural Group who will donate the pre-design phase and finalize ownership of the facility. Work needs to continue on a memorandum of agreement with the four school districts on an operations budget. The next meeting of the Career Workforce Academy Committee is August 16, 2019.

President Richman's Report:

- Enrollment is steady for the 2019 Fall Semester
- NDSCS Marketing Department is changing its emphasis to social media to attract future students. You will see less advertising on billboards and TV.
- Opening Session for campus faculty and staff is August 21, 2019, at 8:30 a.m. in the Harry Stern and Ella Stern Cultural Center. President Richman invited the Board Members to attend. Alumni Foundation will be providing the refreshments.
- President Richman gave an audit update. The Chancellor approved the NDSCS Improvement Plan that has 36 action items. Most of them will be complete by December.

Other Business:

- President Richman reported that the NDSCS College Website updates are almost complete and still scheduled to go live on August 15, 2019.
- The College ended the FY19 Fiscal year on a positive note with a carryover.
- Joel Kaczynski shared some details of a RDO Conference that took place the end of June. Inclement weather prevented the use of the Kosel Agricultural Land Lab. Next week the RDO Senior VP and seven directors plan to stop in and see the Land Lab.
- Information about the Grand Farm and the development of autonomous farm operations was also shared.

Adjournment was motioned by Hugh Veit, seconded by Roger Richels and passed.

Submitted by Melissa Wynn

Approved 9.5.19