



Executive Committee Board ♦ Zoom Video Conference Thursday, April 6, 2023 ♦ 8:15 am (CST)

I. Call to Order:

A bi-monthly meeting of the UNA National Alumni Association Executive Board was held at 8:15 am on Thursday, April 6, 2023, via Zoom. President Will Hodges presided. President Hodges called the meeting to order at 8:17 am.

A. Roll Call and Quorum Report:

Executive Board Members Present: Susan Adams, Bishop Alexander, Mike Byers, Lisa Clayton, Will Hodges, Latasha Howell, Savannah Liles, and Anna Milwee.

Non-Executive Members Present: Sherry Wilkes and Zane Mooney

- II. Guest Speaker: Zane Mooney, Graduate Assistant in the Office of Alumni Relations,** reported on a survey he has developed to gather data from alumni. This survey will be sent as a test to the Executive Board, then to the full Association Board, and finally to all alumni. He is asking the Board to share the survey with three (3) alumni. The survey covers geographical information and alumni-sponsored events. Discussion followed discussing how to tweak the questions to get the best data.

III. NAA Officer Standing Committee Reports:

- A. Alumni Awards Committee:** Savannah Liles reported she has received several nominations. The deadline is May 1. She asked the Board to assist in getting more nominations. Savannah inquired if there is a graphic of the awards we present with a link to submit nominations. Bishop informed her there is, and he will talk to Michelle Eubanks.

B. Professional Development Committee: Anna Milwee reported in the absence of Chair Jeremy Baham. There is currently a mentoring program for student athletes assisted by staff and faculty. In the future they hope to add alumni to help. An Elite Speaker Series is scheduled for April 25 for the student athletes. Lamonte Thompson, former UNA football player and former player for the NFL Baltimore Ravens will be the guest speaker. A meal will be provided. The money for this event will come from the Alumni Professional Budget.

C. Finance Report (Documents attached):

- NAA Greatest-Needs Fund: \$27,664.06
- NAA Distinguished Endowed Scholarship: \$29,582.08
- NAA Current-Use Fund: \$3,431.21

Mike reported we do not have the final numbers for Lions Under the Lights.

Presently the Current-Use Fund is earmarked to provide money to students in an emergency or immediate need. In the past, we have struggled to get these monies to the students in a timely manner. The Finance Committee met and discussed various ways we could improve the distribution. The Finance Committee voted to propose a motion to donate part or all of the funds to the Office of Student Engagement which works with the Pantry and Caring for the Pride. This office has the mechanisms in place to disperse the funds and identify those who are in need. Currently, when we are made aware of a need, it is brought to Bishop, a motion is called to discuss the need and disbursement, it is then approved and voted on. By the time all these steps are processed, it may be too late. It was also mentioned the Alumni Association doesn't always get recognition publicly for when we do things to make a difference. Bishop said Michelle has been given the green light to publish more recognition events by the Alumni Association. Anna mentioned it would be best to not draw attention to the students receiving the funds to protect their privacy. Mike asked for input from the Executive Board. Anna Mike will put together a motion for the Board meeting. He asked if there was an amount the Board is comfortable with giving. He suggested \$2,500 and the Board was okay with that number. Bishop will work with Michelle on the publicity of the donation.

IV. President's Report:

Alumni Summit: He will work with John Haeger and Jeremy Baham to have it during Homecoming.

Promising Alumni: Savannah suggested we recognize eighteen (18) Promising Alumni under the age of thirty (30) on an annual basis. This is a nod to our founding year of 1830.

Summer Board Meeting: The meeting will be scheduled for July. The plan is to have it during Handy Week. More information will be forthcoming.

Lions Under the Lights: There were 138 in attendance. We don't have the final financial amount.

V. Nominations Committee: Susan Adams reported there was one nominee for Executive Secretary. The nominee is Gaye Montgomery Choat. Susan made a motion to vote Gaye as the Executive Secretary. Mike seconded the motion. All approved. This will be communicated to the full Board.

VI. Stadium Update:

Mike had a follow-up meeting with Kevin Haslam, Vice-President of Advancement. The Finance proposed 100 alumni to give \$1,000 over a ten (10) year period for a donation of \$100,000 for an alumni pavilion adjacent to the stadium. Everything is in a conceptual stage at this point. Kevin expressed the Board of Trustees is interested in a vote of confidence or show of support for the stadium. He feels \$10,000 would be an adequate amount at this time. Mike will call a meeting of the ad-hoc committee and will get back to the Executive Board.

VII. NAA Executive Director's Report:

Commencement weekend is fast approaching. There are several departments who are having pining ceremonies and special events for their graduates.

Bishop gave an update on the 1830 Fund. Laura Hamner, Giving Officer from the Office of Advancement expressed how pleased they were with the giving by the Alumni.

- 100% was given by the Executive Board.
- 62% by the Board of Directors.
- 70% by all alumni participating.

Giving was received from forty-five (45) states and three (3) foreign countries

VIII. Adjournment

Susan Adams called for the meeting to be adjourned and Anna Milwee seconded. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaye Choat
Executive Secretary