



## Florida A&M University

### National Alumni Association, Inc.

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RECORDING SECRETARY

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### Florida A&M University National Alumni Association (FAMUNAA)

#### Executive Board Minutes

Tuesday, January 26, 2016 8:00 p.m.

#### **Call to Order**

President Clark Called the Meeting to order.

The call was designed for elected officers only. The appointed officers will be added once approved. The President also had special guests on the call

#### **Invocation**

Opening Prayer was done by Dr. James Moran.

#### **Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken by the Corresponding Secretary Artisha Polk

#### **Executive Board Members Participating:**

Gen. Leroy Bell; Angela Bledsoe; Col. Greg Clark; Dr. Carolyn Collins; Carmen Cummings (non-voting); Michael Davis; Jean Downing; Cassie Farmer; Regina Gardner (non-voting); Tirrell Hamilton; Nicole Jones, Esq.; Derris King; Chuck Lewis; Jimmy Miller; Juanita Moore; Dr. James Moran; Akunna Olumba, Esq., Artisha Polk; Col. Bob Porter; Kier Riley; Van Russ; Pat Shaw; and Mary Smith.

#### **Appointed Officers:**

Carolyn Jones; and Andrew Lawyer.

#### **Quorum**

A Quorum was established.

#### **Agenda**

No changes made to the agenda. Gen. Bell moved for the adoption of the agenda. Jean Downing seconded the motion.

### **President's Appointments**

The President Nominated the following appointed Officers:

Akunna Olumba, General Counsel; Robert Porter, Sergeant of Arms, and Kathy Times, Publicity Director.

Andrew Lawyer, Len Franklin, Regina Gardner nominated as Special Assistants.

T. Nicole Phillips, Executive Assistant to the President (Chief of Staff).

General Leroy Bell made the motion, James Moran seconded. The confirmation of all appointees was unanimous. All appointed officers were then invited to participate on the call.

### **President's 90-Day Plan**

The plan was already briefed to the Florida Region and the Leon County Chapter. Transition discussion took place between Immediate Past President and President. Signature cards completed at FAMU Credit Union and Bank of America. NAA Branding and messaging is important and the Media Team will help control what goes out. Board of Governors Meeting, Operations Manual and 3-year strategic plan. Full-time support needed. \$500K Scholarship Fund-Raiser. Recruiting 10 Life Members. The report was for information purposes only and there were no action items.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report**

Charles Lewis gave an update on the 2016 Convention. May 25 – 29, 2016 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Tampa, FL. The report was for information purposes only and there were no action items.

### **Treasurer's Report**

James Moran gave the IRS 990 Report and Treasurer's Report. Presented information from Curtis Ford in written report. He also presented the IRS generated list of active chapters. The Treasurer will correspond with all chapters to secure their Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Employee Identification Number (EIN) and correct address. The Treasurer will check with Mr. Curtis Ford as to contacting the Greater Orlando Chapter. Tirrell Hamilton suggested that the National Organization pay the past due \$400 amount for all Chapters in monthly batches as opposed to waiting for all chapters to be ready. Van Russ asked if the Nationals has contacted the non-responsive chapters about paying their fines in advance. The Nationals has not done so as of yet. General Leroy Bell summarized that of the 67 Chapters of the FAMU NAA, since the IRS has confirmed that 15 are active, of the remaining 52 if Mr. Curtis Ford has contacted 21 of them, then we need to determine the status of the 31 before paying for all Chapters. The

President has asked that the Treasurer get all Chapter President's on the phone to discuss the 990 situation and what is necessary to get all Chapters back online. The report was for information purposes only and there were no action items.

### **Fundraising Committee**

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Mary Smith gave an overview of the Save Our Student (SOS) \$500,000 Scholarship Campaign. President Greg Clark asked the Regional VPs to ask the Chapters to customize their giving this year to allocate monies towards retention scholarships. The President asked that the Board approve \$10,000 for ten (10) \$1,000 scholarships. Funds are available in the Million Dollar Campaign (NAA Endowment Scholarship) Endowment Earnings (Account #1405) to do so. Gen. Leroy Bell supports the concept. Charles Lewis moved that the Board approve \$10,000 for endowment scholarships. Seconded by Carolyn Collins. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Governmental Relations Committee**

Dr. Carolyn Collins reported about the FAMU NAA Day at the Capitol. The report was for information purposes only and there were no action items. February 4, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Capitol. The Committee wants all alumni to call members of the Florida House of Representatives.

Artisha Polk stated that the information is now out on the website.

Carmen Cummings gave logistics on the bus and the lunch. Fourteen (14) Recruiters will be available on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Capitol. Continental Breakfast will be at the Faculty Clubhouse from 8:00 a.m. and buses will depart from there. The Tampa Chapter and Florida Region contributed to the payment for the bus.

The report was for information purposes only and there were no action items.

### **New Business**

President Clark discussed the request by the Treasurer for approval of \$20,000 from Life Membership Earnings (Account #198) to NAA Operating Account (Account #211). Monies are needed for Membership pins and FAMU Day at the Capitol. Gen. Leroy Bell mentioned that the formula calls for monies from the Life Members Interest Bearing Account are designed to be deposited in the NAA Operating Account. So there is no need for a temporary transfer. Andrew Lawyer also confirmed the formula mentioned by General Leroy Bell, but he clarified called for the transfer of the lesser number between interest earned vs. the total number of Life Members from 2015 (1,917). But the requested amount of \$20,000 should be fine for a permanent transfer. This amount for life members would be \$67,095. Andrew Lawyer announced that as of December 8, 2014 there was \$48,394.17 of interest was transferred to the Life Membership Interest Account (Account #198). Regina Gardener on June 10, 2015 there was \$10,178.80 added as an adjustment to the interest.

Carolyn Collins moved to transfer the amount requested from Life Membership Interest to the NAA Operating Account (Account #211). James Moran seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Reactivation of Southwest Georgia (SWGA) Chapter (Albany)

Andrew Lawyer was not aware of their existence during his six (6) years. Have we considered the New Orleans Louisiana (NOLA) Chapter as they are awaiting their charter reactivation? The President wasn't aware of the NOLA request, but wanted to deal with the SWGA Chapter issue. Tirrell Hamilton checked to see given the current 990 issue, is the Chapter prepared to file all of the documents? The answer was yes. Gen. Leroy Bell asked about the Membership Committee being consulted about their proposal to provide training and guidance to new chapters. Derris King asked is the Membership Committee ready to put things in place. The Membership Committee could take this up, but the Chapter is ready to go. They are highly motivated now and he would hate to see their charter slowed up. All subsequent Chapters will be sent through the Membership Committee. Derris King also has a Milwaukee Chapter ready to go and wants to see their Chapter reactivated as well. The President wanted to take up that issue as well. He feels that if people have paid their money and have the blessing of the Regional VP. Derris King asked to take up the issue of his Chapter offline and will bring them back.

Angela Bledsoe recommended for subsequent Chapter activations, we have a reactivation Subcommittee as part of the Membership Committee to review the checklist of activation requirements.

Carolyn Collins seconded the Angela Bledsoe recommendation.

Rob Porter recommended that the Regional VPs push the activation of the Chapters.

The President wants to take up the issue of activation of other chapters at the next meeting.

Robert Porter made the motion to re-charter the SWGA Chapter. James Moran seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Good of the Order**

Homecoming is October 22, 2016 versus Hampton University. FSU is not playing that weekend.

The President will develop a Master Calendar with all meeting dates.

Van Russ asked about the budgeting process and the timeline for submitting Budget Requests. The President answered that all budget requests should be sent to Reggie Mitchell, Budget and Finance Committee Chair.

Artisha Polk congratulated Kier Riley on her new election to the Student National Alumni Association.

Van Russ asked for the National Directory from the Corresponding Secretary.

Clinton McGill, Southern Region Vice President is going to resign from his position. President Clark asked him to put his resignation in writing. President Clark will take a look at the Southern Region Bylaws to work on a replacement.

Curtis Ford appeared on the call and gave a further update on the Chapter 990 situation. He pledged to work with the NAA to bring the Chapters back online.

Michael Davis gave his phone number to Carolyn Collins (727) 623-8077. They will talk off-line.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:24 p.m.