

EGSC FOUNDATION MEETING MINUTES  
December 7, 2015

Present: Dustin Durden, Nick Herrington, Donald Jenkins, Bill Rogers, Bobby Sasser, Donny Wilson, Juanita Porter, Harriet Ray, Denny Key, Jean Bridges, Ken Warnock, John Derden, Bobby Reeves, Shot Strange, Bill Simmons, Wade Johnson, Tammy Wilkes, Richard McNeely, Bob Boehmer, Cliff Gay

Emeritus Member Present: John Black

Absent: Milton Gray, Lynda Talmadge, Carol Yeomans, Scott Rosenau, Toni Terwilliger, Charles Schwabe

Staff Present: Donald Avery, Heather Roberson, Elizabeth Gilmer, Tim Goodman, Mike Rountree, Angie Williams, Caroline Joyner, Susan Gray, Norma Kennedy, Katelyn Moore, Chuck Wimberly, Stacey King, Monique Johnson, Wiley Gammon

Students Present: Sayvon Wilson, Kierra Hall

John Black was welcomed by Denny Key and the entire group.

The meeting was held at McKinney's Pond and was followed by a Holiday dinner including spouses and guests.

The meeting was called to order and everyone welcomed by Denny Key. He relayed to everyone how much their service was appreciated and thanked them for being there. The invocation was postponed until the dinner hour.

First on the agenda, was an introduction of the Vision 2020 initiative and the Georgia Promise partnership and how it is working in Emanuel County. Elizabeth Gilmer introduced the presentation and Ken Warnock gave an in depth explanation. The program attempts to take "at risk" students and build a community workforce. The example of Southwire in Carrolton was explained. The Governor saw this program work and initiated the Georgia Promise partnership to encourage replication or a modification of the Southwire model. Emanuel County got on board this past spring. 38 students attended the "boot camp" for essential skills. 18 of these students went to work for 7 different employers in the county. If you don't go to school, you don't go to work, you don't go to work, you don't get a check. The students earn graduation credits for work – it motivates them to stay in school. The program is working and will be expanding. This program has "three legs" – the chamber, the industries and the board of education.

Stacey King and Monique Johnson from EGSC were then introduced. Stacey is the Director of the Physical Education Complex and Military Resource Center at EGSC. Monique is our GPP student. Monique spoke to the group about the benefits she has received from her employment and from the supervision of Stacey and mentorship of Marsha Moore from EGSC.

EGSC Athletic Director Chuck Wimberly then addressed the group. He thanked the foundation for helping to make the locker rooms a reality in the gym and gave an update on athletics and their involvement in community events. He then introduced Kierra Hall and Sayvon Wilson from the basketball teams. Both students spoke about the opportunities they have because of the college and the foundation. They both said it made them feel like "home." They like the involvement they are able to have in the community, especially with children in the reading programs, Special Olympics and events like the parade.

The minutes from September 21 were approved with two minor changes to meeting attendance.

The financial statements were presented and approved. Cliff noted the loss we had in the diversified fund investment.

John Derden announced that the foundation has received two grants for the Vision Series. A \$3,000 grant from the Georgia Council for the Arts was received to cover the cost of the McIntosh County Shouters in February. The Vision Series also received a grant of \$10,000 from the Mill Creek Foundation to pay for operating in the coming year.

Dr. Boehmer then addressed the group. He will send his PowerPoint presentation to everyone rather than showing it at the meeting. His discussion covered the following points:

- Are we going to be consolidated? His opinion is no, EGSC has a strong foundation, excellent legislators, our "house" is in order and we are being the college that our mission says we will be. Although there are no promises, he feels that we will not be one of the institutions consolidated.
- How is enrollment? Enrollment is up – not at many institutions in the state of Georgia but EGSC has had an enrollment increase of over 2%. It looks like spring, 2016 will be up over spring, 2015 and the fall enrollment will be strong – especially with the opening of the second residence hall.
- How are we financially? The answer is very good. The assets of the foundation are at about 2.3 million. This is up over a million from just a couple of years ago. Dr. Boehmer announced that he had met with Henry Gambrell. Although this is not broad public news, the Gambrell family will be carrying out one of the long-term wishes of Luck Gambrell by donating approximately 100 acres of land at the entrance to the college off Lambs Bridge Road. With this 100 + additional acres, we are in a very good place regarding the land the college has available to meet the needs of the future. The Gambrells do not want this to be thought of as a gift from Henry and his sisters, it is a gift to carry out the long term vision of Luck Gambrell. This means that we will have to do some planning. Namely a master plan. By using the UGA College of Planning and Design, we will be able to save money over the normal cost of \$100,000- \$200,000 for a master plan.
- Nursing – what is more necessary to the health of the community than the health of its citizens? We are working with Southeastern Technical College to offer a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing at their location, in conjunction with their RN program. The USG has a moratorium on nursing programs but they have given us the green light to keep planning – although they have not said it is approved. It will take a lot of people to step up and say this is critical to the health of the community.
- EGSC Budget – how much money is the state going to allocate to us. We will have more tuition money due to increased enrollment. Yet, if you take all the institutions in the USG and rank them by allocation, we are at the bottom. This is creating a major problem. We had a salary study done by the Vinson institute and asked them, "If you compare us to our sector peers, where do we stand?" For example, if you take staff salaries and compare them to comparable institutions, we are 24% below at the staff level. This makes it hard for us to be competitive in hiring and holding on to faculty and staff. At the USG budget meeting, this was identified as the single issue that we would focus on if given extra money for the budget. It is important to Dr. Boehmer that all foundation trustees understand that he will need their strong support as they speak to the legislative delegation.
- Put all these comments together and we are in a really good place. No danger of consolidation, enrollment is up, financial house is in order, the residence hall is coming up, a new academic building will be starting in the spring, the foundation assets are doubled, and we have secured a

large donation in the Gambrell land. So the challenges we face, i.e. the salary structure and nursing program are just exciting challenges. We are in a great position but we are also at a crossroads. We have to continue to increase assets – with a goal of \$5,000,000.

- Questions – what is the main driver in why the allocations are so low? (Dustin Durden) We are a relatively new location (40 years) and it is very hard to move the needle. From 1997 to 2012, enrollment was rising. It was easy for the USG to say the tuition should handle it. When enrollment went down, tuition went down but there was not money in the state budget to come in and give us a generous allocation. Two numbers to note, how many dollars do we get and how many dollars do we expend per FTE student. We are either last or next to last on both.

Denny Key thanked Dr. Boehmer for his comments

Elizabeth Gilmer then went over several items that will come before the board at the annual meeting in March. These are in the notebooks. Please review before the March 21 meeting and allocate 2 hours. Each committee will also meet in the first quarter.

- Facility use agreement
- Updates/ key indicators
- Fundraising policy and procedure draft
- Report on administrative fee information
- Annual fund drive

Meetings for 2016 have been set for March 21, June 20, September 19, and December 5

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15.

Respectfully submitted,



Harriet Ray  
Secretary