The East Georgia State College Foundation annual meeting was held at 5 p.m. on June 25, 2013 at Bobcat Villas Strange Clubhouse, on the EGSC campus.

Present were: Harriet Ray, Tammy Wilkes, Bobby Reeves, Jerry Cadle, Carol Yeomans, Bobby Sasser, Nick Herrington, Donald Jenkins, Danny Palmer, Milton Gray, Richard McNeely, Bill Rogers, Jr., Charles Schwabe, Jean Morgan, Lynda Talmadge and Denny Key.

Also in attendance were: Elizabeth Gilmer, Mike Rountree, Dr. Bob Boehmer, Cliff Gay, Michelle Goff, Mary Smith, Susan Gray, Donald Avery, Jeff Edgens and Amanda Williams.

Richard McNeely called the meeting to order at 5:07 pm and provided a welcome for those in attendance.

Minutes

- Jerry Cadle made a motion to approve the minutes as circulated. Tammy Wilkes seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report

- Cliff Gay provided the treasurer’s report followed by a motion to approve from Milton Gray. A second was provided by Bill Rogers, Jr. The treasurer’s report was approved unanimously. Gay proceeded to inform those in attendance that the unrestricted funds were being closely monitored. Elizabeth Gilmer gave a breakdown of the foundation budget vs. actual money spent as of 5/31/13 along with the breakdown of the proposed foundation budget for FY 2014.

Dr. Boehmer

- Dr. Boehmer welcomed everyone to the Strange Clubhouse. He recognized the Jean and Shot Strange portrait hanging in the clubhouse and noted that the location is heavily utilized by over 200 housing students. Boehmer stated foundation meetings will continue to be mobile in their meeting locations so as to utilize and visit different areas of the college. He also stressed participation is critical and appreciated during the upcoming September events.

- A series of activities to showcase the excellence of Emanuel county and EGSC will be coming in September and are to include an Academic Convocation, Capital Campaign Kickoff Dinner, Investiture, Bobcat Dash, 40th Anniversary Celebration, Community Art Wall Dedication, and Parents, Family and Alumni Day.

- Boehmer commented 40K people have attended EGSC and at least 12K have graduated or completed at least 40+ hours.

- Dr. Jeff Edgens was introduced as Director of the EGSC Augusta site located at the Summerville campus in Payne Hall. Four full time faculty members, previously of Augusta State, have been hired. In addition to Dr. Edgens, an assistant Director of Student Affairs, tutor, and administrative assistant were also hired. Tomorrow will mark the 1st EGSC welcome event on the Augusta campus with 150-200 anticipated attendees.

- Statesboro is anticipating final approval from SACS before fall semester. This will allow for associate degrees to be granted to students who complete all hours on the Statesboro campus. Long term growth is anticipated. Fall enrollment numbers for Swainsboro are uncertain at the moment but it is known that all chairs set up at the last orientation were full with as many standing.

- Dr. Boehmer referenced an article titled “The need for more private support of two-year colleges” by William Crowe, as he stressed the need for a capital campaign. Boehmer stated, “The pace of change is moving at warp speed.” For example, GA Tech has begun to offer MOOCS (Massive Open Online Courses). A computer science program with 170 students enrolled is anticipated to grow to 10K plus through the ability
to provide the course as a MOOC. Boehmer expressed a need to raise private funds and respond to changes. No response could mean a chance of closing EGSC. In order to “survive and thrive” a needed amount of 5.2 million with a minimum of 3.5 million over the course of 5 years is needed, stated Boehmer.

Budget for 2013-14
- Elizabeth Gilmer stated that a separate budget will be in place for the capital campaign and that funding for the campaign is currently in progress.
- Motion to approve the budget for 2013-14 was made by Bill Rogers, Jr. with a second by Danny Palmer. The budget was approved unanimously.
- Gilmer also stated that the foundation scholarships are all now considered non-renewable.
- It was noted that the dates at the top of the “Proposed Budget” sheet for 2014 should be changed from 2013 to 2014

Nominating Committee Report
- The nominating committee report given by Elizabeth Gilmer, included foundation resignations for Craig Buckley, Jeb Cameron, Stephanie Flanders, and Harry Martin.
- Butch Parrish and Jesse Stone would like to request Emeritus status so they can still attend meetings when able.
- Some members have still not returned their signed charge.
- Current by-laws allow for 27 maximum members and 3 ex-officio members. An effort to contact all foundation members in regard to foundation status will be made. Afterwards, the nominating committee will re-adjourn, discuss membership status numbers, and bring back to the board.
- The idea of a “40 under 40” group to serve as a Junior Foundation board was proposed. Current members were asked to keep potential members in mind.

Committee Assignments
- Gilmer presented the board with a list of committee assignments and stated anyone wishing to join a committee should see her to sign up.

VSE Report Recap
- Elizabeth Gilmer directed the board to the VSE report. The report list EGSC in comparison to other colleges in the state of Georgia in the areas of combined outright and deferred contributions, unrestricted and restricted funds, Alumni of record and beginning fall enrollment headcounts. Gilmer stated the current number of EGSC graduates is 3,101. There is strong potential for alumni financial support.

A general question and answer session followed.

Shot’s Challenge
- Everyone was asked to remember Shot Strange’s challenge.

The next foundation meeting date is to be determined.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bill Rogers, Jr. The meeting adjourned at 6:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Harriet Ray