# EGSC Foundation Annual Meeting Minutes March 27, 2014

Present: Donald Jenkins, Shot Strange, Jean Morgan, Richard McNeely, Bill Rogers, Jr., Bobby Sasser, Nick Herrington, Denny Key, Tammy Wilkes, Harriet Ray, Donnie Wilson, and Charles Schwabe Also in attendance: Dr. Bob Boehmer, Dr. Tim Goodman, Dr. Bob Brown, Mike Rountree, Michelle Goff, Mary Smith, Amanda Williams, and Jerry Hooks.

Denny Key welcomed the group at 6:08 p.m. in the classroom of the Sudie A. Fulford Community Learning Center on the East Georgia State College campus and opened the meeting with an invocation.

Due to a conflict in scheduling Harley Strickland and Vicki Sherrod were not able to attend.

#### Minutes

Harriet Ray presented the minutes to the board. Richard McNeely made a motion to approve the minutes with a second from Bill Rogers, Jr. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### Financials

Michelle Goff presented the financials for February 2014.

Bill Rogers, Jr. made a motion to approve the financials as presented with a second from Bobby Sasser. The financials were approved unanimously.

### Comments from Dr. Bob Boehmer

- Dr. Boehmer also welcomed the group and provided a slide show presentation containing photos from the recent regional high school tour. The purpose of this tour was to go to regional high schools and talk with them about the importance of attending college, whether it is EGSC, Georgia Tech, Southeastern Tech, and so on. Approximately 2600 high school students were reached around the region through this tour. It was a great learning experience because of the ability to talk with school principals and students and hear what they had to say. The EGSC team received positive reactions to their visits. The result will not be evident for some time however, Due to the enormous demand for higher education from students in this region from an institution like EGSC, Dr. Boehmer is very optimistic about the long term growth potential for enrollment.
- The legislative session just wrapped up and the P3 (Public, Private, Partnership) legislation was
  passed. In November voters will have to approve this. If approved, starting in spring 2015, the
  construction of an additional residence hall will begin adjacent to our current residence hall. If
  projections prove to be correct for our area an increased residence hall capacity should increase
  enrollment.
- Legislature also adopted a budget that is a more favorable budget for higher education.
   Although the budget has improved, this year's budget for EGSC is based on fall 2012 enrollment.
   That is the year there was a dip in the budget. We will not know our upcoming budget until the April 15<sup>th</sup> and 16th<sup>th</sup> Board of Regent's budget meeting.
- The graduation speaker for the spring 2014 commencement will be Erma Jenkins.
- EGSC continues to seek external grants. One grant recently awarded, is from the Georgia Post Secondary Inclusive Education Commission. The grant will enable EGSC to hire someone to design a program that will allow developmentally disabled students in the community, to come and participate in college life on the EGSC college campus. The program is currently being utilized at the campuses of Kennesaw State and Columbus State. Dr. Boehmer asked for help from the foundation board in two ways; 1) to understand the numbers in regards to disabled student participation will be very low, for example two or three, and 2) for the foundation board to help the community understand the purpose of the program and bring awareness to the community that our campus will be a richer place and our students will be introduced to multiple learning opportunities while assisting these developmentally disabled students. These

delineation of the Thigpen property 4) what other property is available that is adjacent to the EGSC campus that might be for sale rather than the Thigpen property.

- The Investment/Real Estate/Budget Committee will present a recommendation to the full board regarding the purchase of the property. According to the Bylaws, Article 7, Paragraph P, the act of a majority of the entire board must be required in order to make a decision on a purchase larger than \$50,000.
- It was noted that scholarship award amounts would not decrease if the housing funds were used however, if the funds were invested it would increase the amount of scholarship funds available.
- Shot Strange proposed that a pledge card be sent to each board member in an effort to gather a firm understanding of the support from the foundation regarding the purchase of the property.

Bobby Sasser asked that the donation status of Dr. Madison Dixon and Sallie Canady be determined as restricted or unrestricted funds.

# **Scholarships**

• A motion to approve that \$62,500 be awarded in scholarships from the foundation was made by Bill Rogers, Jr. with a second from Richard McNeely. Motion to approve the use of funds for scholarship awards was unanimous.

## **Annual Fund Progress**

Denny Key noted that the next appeal letter regarding fundraising efforts will go out on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.
 Anyone who may have potential donor contacts is encouraged to see Elizabeth Gilmer or Denny Key. Arrangements will then be made to contact or visit with those individuals.

The next foundation meeting will be June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Meeting adjourned at 7:20.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harriet Ray

