

Virginia Tech Alumni Association
Richmond Chapter
Board Meeting
August 18, 2020
6:00pm
Virtual Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER: Welcome Officers & Guests; Introductions

BOARD MEMBERS:

Elyssa Mackey, President	Vernon Wildy, Ambassador, 2021
Jason Habel, Past President (absent)	Lauren Knowles, Ambassador, 2021
Aaran Kelley, Vice President	Eugene Pogue, Ambassador, 2022
Steven Smith, Treasurer	Charlie Wood, Ambassador, 2022
Cotter Starnes, Communications (absent)	Emma Bradberry, Ambassador, 2023
Patrice Strachan, Recording Secretary	Steve Smith, Ambassador, 2023 (absent)

ALUMNI GUESTS:

Mark McMurray

II. CALL TO ORDER and APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Elyssa Mackey. The July minutes were approved as corrected.

III. OFFICER REPORTS

- a. Treasurer: Steven reported the SunTrust bank account balance is approximately \$64,000. To cover the \$25,000 expense for the ten 2020 scholarship awardees, a check for approximately \$13,000 was sent to Virginia Tech to supplement the income generated from the chapter's foundation account. Steven plans to hold remaining funds in our account for the time being, pending any unexpected expenses for the upcoming RVA Career Expo. The President and Treasurer each now have debit cards – please contact Steven or Elyssa to process any payments.
- b. Recording Secretary: Patrice is maintaining the Chapter user/pw accounts and will send an update to Blacksburg. She will save a permanent copy, along with the monthly Agenda and Minutes, on the Chapter President's Google Drive. Going forward she will keep backup copies for safekeeping.
- c. Communications: Cotter asked that any communication needs be sent to her two weeks in advance.
- d. Vice President: Aaran reported she participated in the Freshmen sendoff video conference and the July 28th Chapter Cheers event with John Boyer.
- e. President: Elyssa reported she will cover all upcoming events.

IV. UPCOMING EVENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. RVA Career Expo: Patrice reported the Expo committee is meeting weekly. All 105 participating employers from last March have been sent invitations to participate in the virtual job fair, scheduled October 12-16. Companies were assigned by days based upon industry. Beginning Wednesday, August 19, volunteer liaisons will contact all companies who have not responded to determine their interest.
- b. Monthly Chapter Events:
 - i. Chapter Cheers: The next event is "Behind the Mic - An Insider Look at a Hit Podcast Run by Hokie Alumni", scheduled August 27 at 6 p.m.
 - ii. Welcome to the City: This event has been rescheduled to October, date TBD. It will be a virtual event for all alumni new to Richmond. Elyssa requested that Blacksburg NOT schedule on the same week as the RVA Career Expo.

- c. Scholarship: Lauren reported all scholarship awards have been paid to VT. One student requested the full amount be paid this Fall, rather than split by Semester, due to COVID uncertainty; Lauren confirmed this was done. Lauren agreed to notify Betty Lee Robertson regarding the recipient who was awarded a scholarship in honor of Bud Robertson.
- d. Community Service:
 - i. Hokies Helping Hokies: Emma and Jason are planning to meet soon to organize events.
 - ii. Book Drive – Matt Davidson continues to oversee the book drive announced at last month’s board meeting. Donations are still being accepted.
- e. Technology:
 - i. “RichmondHokies.org” Admin Email Addresses: Elyssa announced she has access to all the Chapter’s Gmail accounts; there are about 40 accounts in all, and some are outdated. Lauren and Eugene volunteered to help Elyssa clean up the list.
 - ii. Website: Eugene is working with a new volunteer for the website and spoke recently with website volunteer Alex Brennon.
- f. Young Alumni:
 - i. Alumni Charity Challenge:
 - 1. Emma reported the Challenge will be a virtual event this year, scheduled from Sept 21-25 with drop-off time slots available. Monetary donations will be accepted beginning August 21.
 - 2. This event will serve as the quarterly social for the Young Alumni. The committee is working on ideas to get alumni involved, possibly offering an incentive using Hokie logo items as a giveaway.
 - g. Diversity: Eugene reported he is working to plan an October event and will also piggyback on the next Blacksburg event.

V. COMMENTS/GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- a. Elyssa reported the Chapter Officer’s Forum will be in September. Christi stated there will be an alumni virtual celebration on Sept 10-11.
- b. Elyssa asked the Board for ideas regarding Game Watching events. Vernon suggested to wait and determine if there will be a football schedule, and suggested asking Stephanie check with On the Rox about hosting any events. Emma will look into the Virginia Cliffe Inn as a venue possibility. Elyssa also suggested we consider a live-streaming or Facebook watch event.

VI. New Business: None

VII. NEXT MEETING: September 15th @ 6:00pm via virtual platform

VIII. ADJOURNMENT at 6:48 pm