

Virginia Tech Alumni Association  
Richmond Chapter Board Meeting  
May 18, 2021  
6:00 pm  
Virtual Meeting

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Elyssa Mackey, President, welcomed all Board Members and guests and called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. A quorum was present.

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

GUESTS:

Christi Lineberry, VT Alumni Relations

- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The April 20, 2021 minutes were approved as written.

III. OFFICER REPORTS

- A. Treasurer: Steven reported the estimated scholarship obligation to fund \$25,000 in scholarships this year is \$12,500. The check is due to Virginia Tech on August 1. Scholarships will be dispersed to recipients in August or September. This year's obligation is partially offset by a Morgan Stanley contribution of \$2,000, leaving a remaining balance of \$10,500. We currently have \$42,000 in the bank.
- B. Secretary: Patrice reported the Chapter's Zoom account is expiring in July. The Board approved renewing the Zoom account for another year and registering it with the Chapter Secretary's Gmail account.
- C. Communications Director: No report.
- D. Vice President: No report.
- E. President: Elyssa's report is in the events reports listed below.

IV. UPCOMING EVENTS & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. RVA Career Expo Recap:
  - a. Patrice reported that 15 companies remain on the liability list from the March 2020 Expo. She will send Steven the list of companies to send refund checks to. Unless the state fully opens up to large-scale in-person events by July 1, the next RVA Career Expo will be tentatively scheduled in March 2022.
- B. Monthly Chapter Events
  - a. Crowdfunding campaign: \$1,810 raised, plus an additional \$100 collected was by Charlie Wood for scholarships. There were several emails sent out and a social media campaign. A nice feature was the testimonials from previous scholarship recipients, which can be used in the future. Elyssa recommended we repeat this campaign in the future. Steven recommended doing this again before the end of the year to capture donations from individuals looking for an end-of-year tax deduction. Jason suggested we begin the campaign in mid-November.
  - b. Hokie Golf Classic - May 20 – June 30: Christi reported an email is going out tomorrow with a toolkit. It is a safe event to host during COVID with a \$35 registration plus a \$25 gift to be designated to any recipient. Christi asked for

help spreading the word, which can generate more funds for scholarships. A gift certificate option is available for Father's Day or other events. Cotter will promote on Social Media.

- c. Reunion Weekend - June 8-11: Christi reported that emails went out this week to the participating classes. Anyone can participate.
  - d. Cornerstone Reunion: This will be held at the end of May.
  - e. Fightin Hokies Lager Event at Hardywood - August 14 (TBD): Plans are being formulated to promote this event.
- C. Scholarship: Lauren reported 52 applications were received this year (about half of previous years). They will review all applications and send the list to Christi, ranked in order of need. The final due date is June 13. Charlie reminded the Board we must name a scholarship for Bud Robertson, plus another named for a hall of fame honoree.
- D. Community Service: No report.
- E. Technology: No report.
- F. Young Alumni: No report.
- G. Diversity: No report.

#### V. COMMENTS/GENERAL DISCUSSION

Vernon asked Christi what the policy regarding in-person events was? Christi responded that up until June 30, the Chapter can host in-person board meetings for now. For any other in-person event, we would need to contact Christi for approval. As of now, there is no official plan for the fall. The Board agreed to meet in person for the June meeting and include an option to meet via Zoom. The location for the next board meeting is TBD.

#### VI. NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

- A. The New Hokie Welcome Party: Elyssa reported this event would be wrapped into the August Hardywood event already scheduled.
- B. Freshman Sendoff: Elyssa suggested that if we don't do an event, we should send a message to all accepted students. The Board needs to determine if this event will be held earlier in the summer or combined with the Hardywood event in August. We will also promote to the Hokies Parent Group. We have received the list of accepted students; there are 508 students in all.
- C. Board positions: Elyssa reported the Secretary position is open. Please email prospective candidates to Elyssa and Aaran. Christi will coordinate a blast email noting this open position.

VII. NEXT MEETING: June 15, 2021, at 6:00 pm Location TBD.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.