

River Campus Board of Managers Minutes

September 7, 2018

Noon in River Campus Seminary Conference Room

Attendees: Rhonda Weller-Stilson, Victoria Rust, Scott Meyer, Bob Cerchio, Tammy Randolph

Absent: Trudy Lee

Minutes from June read. Dennis Vollink made a motion to approve, Scott Meyer accepted; motion accepted. Introduction of Tammy Randolph, serving as replacement for Karl Kunkel. Her term expiration date is December 2020.

Holland College changes and Faculty/Staff Retreat – Rhonda provided details related to the retreat held in August that served to familiarize faculty and staff with one another. It also served as a means to brainstorm on a collective college vision. Individuals were asked ‘wouldn’t it be cool ...’. Those lists were compiled and shared and are being used to create new initiatives. In addition to the Holland College transition, Computer Science, STEM, and Business and Education were re-aligned and seem to be pleased. There are great conversations happening within each college.

New Art Building – is part of the university’s master plan with a proposal for a 28,000 ft. space. There has been some community involvement and the University is looking into grants and donors for the project. Scott Meyer may have some ideas regarding funding and he and Rhonda will make plans to discuss more. There is a currently a \$5 million-dollar budget on the table with discussions to rework an existing down town building. There is also an Arts Task Force in place with board members representing both Commerce Bank and Hutson’s.

Needs of the departments – are being identified. A couple of examples include pianos for the Music department and cameras for Theatre and Dance. Rhonda is working with departments to gather a list that will be shared with the University Foundation office.

The Fault Line Film Festival – begins November 7, with an opening ceremony and Keynote in the Bedell. In addition, there will be student master classes and an awards ceremony November 9th. Everything is free to the community. As part of the event, there will be a high school premier on Saturday. Entries have been received from across the country and there was discussion related to travel and city growth opportunities provided by this annual event. Rhonda remarked on what a great supporter the Regional Airport has been.

River Campus Summer Arts Festival 2018 update – over 4,000 guests attended that day. It was a big success and included larger guest numbers in the afternoon. Additional parking areas were provided which were put to good use. Three shows were performed including *39 Steps*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Legally Blonde Jr.* A few food vendors did not show up which caused a minor snag. Bus service for the day was good but will be improved on next year with additional marketing. The board discussed involving Cape’s south side and Shelly Moore was mentioned as the council woman for that district. The board agreed to consult with her on future community involvement. The Summer Festival date for 2019 will be June 15th.

An American Hero update – enough money was raised to make this New York trip and the student and faculty were so grateful. It was a 20-hour bus trip with 40 individuals. However, our students were very professional and wonderful university ambassadors. Several awards were received including the Best of Festival Production Award, Outstanding Individual Performance and a special citation for University Excellence. The production’s design team also received a nomination for outstanding design. Organizers of the festival have already contacted Kenn, asking for ways to expand so that the show can be featured in other venues. In addition, there is a company in Virginia interested in producing the show. Several students including Jose Alpizar, Ellen Carr, and one of our freshmen were asked to audition for other shows and some auditioned for professional dance classes. Dr. Vargas attended and there were many alums who traveled to see the show. Rhonda was most appreciative of Jerry Ford and his donation of time for the USO Show that served as a fundraiser for this project.

Touring show schedule update – The new season brochure was handed out. It has been down-sized and received a great response. It was noted that there is as much information with the newer layout and the university was able to save a lot of money. Bob has added a new show, *Dukes of Disneyland* that replaces *Turn It Up*; the Box Office is working with patrons to be sure these changes are noted. Tickets sales have been very good, and two new discounts are being offered. There was discussion related to all of the returning sponsors including Commerce Bank, Rhodes, Bank of Missouri, Cuba Financial and The Chateau.

Information items – Procedures Manual Updates will include a few procedural items. It was noted that it would be good to have an update to food vendor policies. Currently, there is only a small percentage of community vendors currently serving at River Campus. This is due in part to the 15% catering charge that must be provided to Chartwell’s.

There was a discussion related to the College Open Houses which include tours of the Rust Media Center and spaces on main campus. Included at these events is information about all of our departmental accreditations.

Scott Meyer made a motion to adjourn, Victoria Rust seconded - meeting adjourned.