

Meeting called to order 8:00 P.M. Total number of participants on call is 176.

This meeting is to review issues discussed last week and come up with some suggestions to move forward.

Discussion: Guest Speaker: Curtis Taylor – National Rattler F-Club President. Mr. Taylor greeted all Teleconference participants and highlighted the following:

- Football team riding the bus to games
- Deplorable condition of the locker room – some high school locker rooms are better than FAMU's locker room
- All sports should be kept strong so as not to lose our D-1 status
- Recommended that we do something in Orlando.
- Recommended that in 2015 we need to do something every month, even in other states and get FAMU on board to make sure this happens.
- First class brochure which will talk about the major stake holders, goals, objectives and what we need to accomplish.
- Recommended Advertising to publicize our efforts by using Facebook, magazines, twitter, Announcer in Orlando to make this happen. This is the right time to come together to support FAMU. This is the pregame, we have 4 quarters to make this happen, if we stay and strike together as rattlers, we will be successful.

President Mitchell gave an overview of what happened on the October 8, 2014 conference call. Since the last meeting, Rev. Holmes is on board with plans to move forward to enhance our program thus creating a winning team.

We are trying to get 100 donors to give \$1000 by November 2014. This is the initial effort of the plan. Tonight we want to decide on what efforts we are going to put forth either to renovate or rebuild the field house. We are asking for special dollars to be donated to athletics.

Guest Speaker: Eddie Jackson-President of the 220 Quarterback Club –

Mr. Jackson emphasized the importance of focusing on the FAMU field house. Renovation should take top priority and can be done within a year. Mr. Jackson also informed alumni that he had spoken with Othema Construction, the builder of FAMU's School of Journalism, about renovations to include all new lockers, and additional expansion of the field house 1000-1500 square feet. He will be present at the luncheon next Wednesday to make a special presentation. Our theme is *"Let's Do Something Great for FAMU."*

Kenneth Webster – Now that we have a list of goals, we need to make sure we maximize our resources by getting a committee so we are not using the same people. Suggested we ask individuals running for office and support those who are supporting us. Look for a minimum of \$5000 per county from those seeking a political office. This would equal \$335,000 by November. Mr. Webster suggested we continue with the 10 for 10, insurance policy and other ideas.

Henry Lawrence – can we get other field houses comparisons and a renovation comparison to just building a new facility? Also, are we eligible for kick-starter or a matching fundraiser. Mr. Jackson stated that his research found that a new field house was estimated to cost 3-5 million.

Tyson Cora – Florida lottery gives money out. Field house is the first priority, but get in writing what is to be done and who will do the work. Also, what assurance do we have that donated monies will be used for the purpose for which it was intended. President Mitchell stated we could ask for a monthly report, and these things will be put in place before we start collecting money.

Eddie Jackson – Mentioned the tennis coach asked that they be kept a part of the fundraising.

Clark Junior – Suggested we stop letting the other sports be dependent on one sport. Each sport should be independent. Suggested the Tennis team sponsor a professional tournament. This would take some of the pressure off of football.

Percell Pratt – Recommended commit funds to the university on a regular bases. Mr. Pratt also recommended the brochure being created should indicate and give information on all departments.

Donald Rutledge- Mentioned his chapter will start donating \$1000 this homecoming toward the field house. Mr. Rutledge recommended not rushing to complete this project, but suggested getting a loan to get the renovations done.

Tirrell Hamilton – Questioned what was the Athletic Director's and Booster Club plan? Hamilton also stated he spoke with a Banker and was told to inform legislators of our need to build and they could issue a bond.

Layla McCall – stated she visited the field house recently and there was an odor, inquired if renovations will get rid of this odor.

Elvin Parker – Will a renovated field house compare to other universities making us competitive with recruiting. Also, is there a way to do renovations in phases? Mr. Jackson stated biggest concern was trying to build a new field house. Mr. Taylor mentioned that everyone should be on the same page. All the monies cannot be used on the field house. Monies left over should be used for transportation, tennis and golf. Mr. Jackson stated that only \$45,000 would be used for renovations, and there will still be monies left over to be used for other purposes. The football team will be flying to Washington this weekend. Mr. Taylor mentioned that they rode the bus to Miami, Jackson and Tennessee State. President Mitchell stated it would have taken \$55,000 for the team to fly to these three games.

John Glover – In expanding the entire stadium area, there are private funding available for this project. Michael Smith has identified sources where funds are available. The immediate needs such as the locker room should be done in phases.

John Lee – Mentioned that he applaud everyone for this effort, however, suggested these efforts be tied into the larger picture. Stated that even with a million dollars, FAMU would not be able to compete and attract those great athletes.

Ben Johnson – Asked if we explored the opportunity of naming rights? President Mitchell stated there are some efforts to consider this.

Thomas Haynes – Mr. Haynes thanked our NAA President, and Guest Speakers for playing a part in organizing this teleconference. Stated he will donate along with others his \$1000. Mr. Hayes stated FAMU's giving has gotten easier, one can give online, website or mail check to FAMU Foundation. There is integrity in this process, which means when you give money it has to be spent where you designate it to be spent. The office will develop brochures, web communication, direct mail and phone a-thons but at the end of the day, our personal influence will be the biggest factor that will influence giving. Renovations are being planned for the first and second floor. It takes investments to make championships. The field house is only one aspect of this project. Other aspects include students, etc.

President Mitchell asked Mr. Haynes to create an account in which all these dollars will be deposited. Mr. Mitchell also asked that we have some kind of activity for homecoming to make it possible for people to give.

Discussion: Where do we go from here?

Ben Johnson – Recommended designating a percentage of funds donated toward travel.

Purcell Pratt – Same

Katia Allen – Agreed a percentage also goes toward travel.

Thomas Haynes - Suggested categories be provided for preference selection.

Discussion

Eddie Jackson– Stated we not only concentrate on travel for the football team, but also other programs at stake. Mr. Jackson suggested we raise funds for all the programs (tennis, volleyball, track & field etc.).

Thomas Haynes- suggested that the donor decides on the amount to be given.

- Specify 25% transportation and 75% field house
- If no designations on check, automatically give 75% to field house and 25% travel and other sports.
- Donations will be more specific online with boxes to check where donations will be distributed

Ceeka Green – Volunteered to include solicitations for field house in 10 for 10 advertisements through media.

Kenneth Webster – three is a group another avenue to get funds for the field house. Let's not worry about percentages.

Suggested Name of Fund from last week call was "**Rattlers Sports Fund**"

- ✓ Atty. Reggie Mitchell moved to vote on name for fund.
- ✓ Seconded
- ✓ Passed (2 objections)

Memorandum of understanding that there are presently four (4) priorities:

- Football Field house
- Travel
- Golf
- Tennis

Clarification: The Rattlers Sports Fund will be used by all athletics.

Thomas Haynes – If the donor understands that by giving to the sports fund, a percentage will be given based on the priorities set, this has to be made clear. If we raise a million dollars, priorities will be whatever we say they will be. Other categories will allow the donor to give directly to those funds. A donor preference will be established.

President Mitchell concerned that some individuals are not in agreeance of giving to all the priorities above. He suggested that we vote based on the differences of individuals.

Curtis Taylor – reminded the callers that when first we met, there were 4 issues. It appears that we are making this more difficult. A brochure needs to be put out with the priorities listed (locker-room, travel, golf, tennis, etc.). Our efforts need to be in raising this money, and making this happen for our students and Florida A&M University.

President Mitchell stated this does not account for people who are opposed to all of the 4 priorities.

Tuwanna Monroe – stated that Dr. Haynes has the best solution, the Foundation states clearly that you can designate where you want funds to go, if not designated, funds will be allocated to these 4 areas based on priorities. If Alumni want to give to other areas within the Foundation they can do that. This will encourage people to designate.

Thomas Haynes will start on making this happen tomorrow and have ready by next week.

Curtis Taylor asked a meeting be scheduled for next week. President Mitchell asked Atty. Reggie Mitchell to be present on the call so he could include the Memorandum of Understanding.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:20 P.M.