Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association Board Meeting Minutes
Date: October 14, 2009

The Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association Board Meeting was called to order by President John Ingram at 5:34 p.m.

The minutes from the September 9, 2009, meeting were read aloud by Elaine DuBose, former recording secretary. The minutes were accepted as read.

Correspondence: Corresponding Secretary Sarah Archibald read a letter from alumna Jane E. Fischer. Fischer is 95 years old. In her letter she expressed regret for not being able to attend the Gold Gala due to a fall. Fischer is a retired SLPS school teacher. A collection was taken by the alumni members in attendance, and Archibald and her family members delivered the money to Fischer.

Financial Reports: Financial Secretary Scharad Hutchins gave a four-page report that summarized money received. Hutchins stated that he believes the financial document is in an appropriate format. The distributions of financial reports dated back to July 2009.

Treasurer’s Report: Public Relations/Alumni Specialist Nisa Korte distributed copies of the Alumni Association’s Treasurer’s financial report on behalf of Treasurer Candace Dickson. The Alumni Association received HSSU’s Alumni Account overview. Korte stated that if there were questions to please hold them until Dickson arrived. Dickson and Hutchins will make sure their reports reflect the same information. It was suggested that itemized transactions/line items be done instead of the current format.

Insurance Report: Korte stated the insurance that she had been working on instituting was short term medical and regular medical. She asked if anyone had questions about the insurance contracts that she had e-mailed earlier that month. A question was asked as to whether or not the proposal had been looked at by the University’s attorneys. Because the Alumni Association is a separate entity from the University, the Alumni Association should have its own attorney review the document. Questions/concerns arose about coverage and what is and isn’t covered. The Board voted to have an insurance broker that Board Member Jeanine Riley knows review the document.

Gold Gala: Gold Gala Chairwoman Dickson reported that it was a great affair. The silent auction offered a friendly competition to the affair and brought in a substantial amount of money. Everyone was commended for his or her participation. It was an awesome Gold Gala!

Goal Reports:

Activity Support: Chairwoman Archibald requested a copy of the mission statement for the Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association. The Alumni Association needs to be advertised through various media outlets. The calendar of events should also be distributed to instructors.
Interim Dean of Student Affairs Charles Gooden and the Homecoming Committee are discussing moving the homecoming date next year to an earlier date.

Students need to know what is going on. The residence hall director and resident assistants (R.A.s) need to make sure residents know what events are on campus. The Alumni Association needs to get information about the alumni activities to churches, mason organizations, Greek organizations, middle schools, high schools and clubs.

It was proposed that freshmen who attend the alumni conversations event get credit for attending next year.

There will be open communication next year about what’s going on with the Harris-Stowe Alumni Association with student leaders.

Instead of the alumni baseball game, maybe board games and cards could be played.

It was mentioned that next year vendors could rent booths in order to sponsor the Gold Gala. Vendors could sell school wear or Greek wear.

*Expansion Committee* Chairwoman Yvonne Chatwell reported that the committee will meet October 20, 2009. One of their agenda items is to have HSSU chapters in other cities. More information will follow.

**Membership Committee:** Chairman Terrell Wayne had no report.

**Scholarship Committee:** Chairwoman Marilyn Wayne reported that since September 2009, the committee has collected $6,070 for scholarships. The scholarship committee will meet again in February 2010.

**Unfinished Business:** A question was raised concerning the mission statement for the Alumni Association. The mission statement was read by a member. The Corresponding Secretary Archibald will send it to all of the Alumni Board members so we can all read it and eventually finalize it.

Korte reported that HSSU Executive Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs Constance Gully is in charge of preparing the office on campus for the Alumni Association. It was suggested that Parliamentarian Shirley McCullough speak with Gully on behalf of the Alumni Association. There is a question of whether the Alumni Association will be able to use the furniture in the facility because it is state property. The Alumni Association might have to purchase furniture for the space and will definitely have to purchase the necessary office equipment. McCullough will look at the space and then recommendations will be made so that the Alumni Association can proceed.

The HSSU Office of Alumni Affairs has elected to revive the alumni newsletter. The newsletter will be published quarterly. The newsletter could sell ads. Monies received could go to purchase
postage and the residual money could go to the scholarship fund. There was a concern that this could take money away from ads during Homecoming activities.

**New Business:** If there is going to be a new date for Homecoming, the Gold Gala Committee needs to know the date before March, so that the Alumni Association can begin making necessary plans for Homecoming. Dates have been suggested for the last week in September or the first week in October.

**Recognition Luncheon:** A new chairperson and committee will be formed for this occasion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m. by President Ingram.


Rebecca Casson
Recording Secretary