

NWFSC Development Committee Meeting
April 19, 2023 8:00 a.m.
Building 400, Room 301
Niceville Campus

Members Present:

Tyler Jarvis
Hu Ross
Bernard Johnson

Alan Wood
Stan Siefke
Teresa Halverson

Staff Present:

Jennifer Bernich
Conner Rogers
Chris Stowers

Absent:

Cecil Williams
Don Litke
Gordon King
Michelle Freeman

Call to Order:

Mr. Wood called the meeting to order at 7:59 a.m.

Approval of Committee Meeting Minutes:

The minutes from the January 18, 2023 Development Committee Meeting were presented. **Motion to approve minutes as presented Mr. Ross Second, Ms. Halverson. Motion to approve carried unanimously.**

Approval of the Alumni Working Group Minutes:

The minutes from the April 11, 2023 Alumni Working Group Meeting were presented. **Motion to approve minutes as presented Mr. Ross Second, Ms. Halverson. Motion to approve carried unanimously.**

2023 Alumni Awards:

Mr. Stowers presented the Alumni Award winners that were chosen by the Alumni Working Group Committee during the April 11, 2023 meeting. Out of the 5 nominees, two were selected. Mr. Michael Nguyen, Hometown Hero; Mr. SeifAllah Salotto-Cristobal, Rising Star. Two nominees did not have enough information presented with their nomination and one was a previous winner with a very lengthy nomination, but it was difficult to ascertain the important achievements. **Motion to accept the proposed 2023 Alumni Award winners (Mr. Michael Nguyen, Hometown Hero; Mr. SeifAllah Salotto-Cristobal, Rising Star) for presentation to the Board, Mr. Ross; Second, Mr. Siefke. Motion carried unanimously.**

Year-to-Date Fundraising:

Mr. Stowers presented the Year-to-Date fundraising report. NWF State College Foundation's *Continuous Improvement Plan* goal is to increase annual support (gifts, memberships, new pledges, and in-kind donations) to the Foundation, by 5% based on a rolling three-year average, resulting in a minimum of \$1,357,795 raised by June 30, 2023. The chart below shows a year-to-date comparison for March 31, 2023 to March 31, 2022, as well as the total amount raised for the prior three years.

Annual Solicitations Report:

Ms. Rogers presented the annual solicitations report. Out of 32 total board members (Foundation Board and Board of Trustees) 27 members, 84%, have made gifts this fiscal year. Discussion was had on how to engage members who had yet to give. Ms. Rogers updated the report to reflect that as of April 19, 2023 there are 64 members of President's Circle with gifts and pledges totaling \$41,600.

Fund Raising Priorities

Mr. Stowers presented that the Foundation staff has been laying the groundwork to pursue building the Raider Champions Scholarship Endowment. Under Dr. Stephenson's leadership, the vision of the endowment was to remove the financial barriers to local students achieving their educational goals. The Development Committee provided valuable insight into the name, message and donor prospects for this initiative. After extensive discussion between the College and Foundation leadership, it has been determined that a shift in focus is needed. In order to secure the legacy of excellence for our student athletes, we are asking the Foundation Board to prioritize building an endowment to provide ongoing funding for athletic tuition, housing, and program support. The timing has never been better to embark on a fundraising campaign for athletics. With national championships in each of the last three years, NWFSC has proven that winning – and producing stellar student athletes – is possible. With the community rallied around us, now is the time to capitalize on the goodwill.

Board Engagement:

Mr. Stowers presented portions of the "Annual Commitment" form, highlighting the portions related to Board engagement and participation in events across the College. At the January 18, 2023 Development Committee meeting, an informal discussion was begun about how to assist board members with these two items and to be engaged. The (relatively) new team within the Foundation staff is eager to assist board members in any way possible. Please be prepared to offer ideas and suggestions about to how to encourage and equip each member to fulfill his/her commitment.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:13 a.m.



Jonathan Ochs, Development Committee Chair

7/18/23

Date



Chris Stowers, Secretary

7/18/23

Date