

Livingston Concert/Lecture Series Committee Minutes

November 28, 2017

In Attendance: Kimberly Bell, Tonyia Bowling, Dr. Ron Fritze, Stacie Hughes, Dr. Katherine Quinnell, Terry Stepp, Dr. Darlene Turner-White, Chris Latham (Chair), and Lauren Blacklidge (Recorder)

Absent: none

Upon recommendation of the Committee at the November 14, 2017 meeting, Livingston Concert/Lecture Series Sponsorship Guidelines were created based on the language of the original Livingston agreement. Mr. Latham opened the meeting with a discussion of these guidelines.

- **Guideline 1:** “Events or activities that will not directly benefit more than one campus or community group (Faculty or Staff Development) will not be sponsored.”

Discussion: Dr. Quinnell would like the language of this guideline to be less restrictive and to specify that when considering events, preference should be given to those that benefit the students and/or the community.

- **Guideline 2:** “Non-University events and activities held outside Athens/Limestone County will not be sponsored. These would be considered marketing-related sponsorships for publicity of Athens State University.”

Discussion: No changes recommended.

- **Guideline 3:** “If a sponsorship opportunity is submitted for an event where admission is charged or where co-sponsors exist, requestor must provide documentation of all expected expenses and sources of revenue for consideration before sponsorship is approved.”

Discussion: Ms. Bell raised a concern about this guideline. Due to various logistical challenges, it is not always feasible to provide all required documentation well in advance of an event.

Upon review of these guidelines, Mr. Latham went over the guideline process.

Mr. Stepp informed the Committee that contracts are required for all events and that the obtaining of such needs to be added to the guideline process.

No additional guidelines were recommended by the Committee.

After the discussion of the Livingston Guidelines, the following events were proposed and/or voted upon by the Committee. The result of each vote is deemed final.

- **“Religion and Society Series”** – Dr. Fritze proposed this event as a follow up to the Reformation 500 Series of Events. The series, jointly sponsored by the Coleman Center for Religion and

Ethics, would consist of one organ concert and three or four lectures from either Athens State faculty or outside speakers. The series would take place in Fall 2018. The event would not be connected to the proposed organ recital by Dr. Rolf Goebel and would require \$3,000 in funding.

Vote: All Committee members in favor; none opposed. Event is approved.

- **Trapped in the Crossfire Author Event** – Dr. Quinnell would like the Athens State English and History departments to sponsor the event. She also believes that the author needs to be required to hold a lecture in addition to a book reading and signing. Mr. Latham will follow up with the author via email to see what she would be willing to do for the event.

No vote held.

- **Equal Pay Day featuring Lilly Ledbetter** – Ms. Bell shared that no additional progress has been made concerning this event. Dr. Humphrey is very interested in having Ms. Ledbetter speak at the proposed Women’s Leadership Symposium. Ms. Bell will reach back out to Dr. Humphrey to discuss the matter further. Mr. Latham expressed his concern with the financial aspects of this event, as Ms. Ledbetter has requested \$15,000 for a speaking engagement. The Alumni Foundation would only be able to contribute \$1,000 toward the event and Livingston would only be able to pay \$4,000 - \$5,000 from its budget. Dr. Quinnell suggested that we let Dr. Humphrey find out the lowest price we could get Ms. Ledbetter to participate in the event for and go from there.

No vote held.

- **Women’s Leadership Symposium** – Ms. Bell informed the Committee that Carolyn McKinstry and Cathy Dickens have been confirmed as keynote speakers. The theme for the event will be “Women Who Serve” and will focus on women who are active in serving their community. The event will require \$4,000 - \$6,000 in funding, but the CLL is only asking for \$1,000 from Livingston.

Vote: All Committee members in favor; none opposed. Event and \$1,000 funding is approved. (Funding amount subject to change upon confirmation of Lilly Ledbetter as keynote speaker.)

- **Songwriter’s Showcase** – Ms. Bell discussed that the songwriters participating in this event are big names from Nashville. They are considering the possibility of having the songwriters hold a class at the ACA before the show (admission would be charged) with the best song written during the class being performed during the show. The event would be free to the public and would be most successful if held in an open, casual environment such as a restaurant as opposed to in a

campus venue such as McCandless. The event needs \$2,000 in funding to cover the songwriters and sound. The cost of potentially holding a class is not included in the amount requested.

Vote: Ms. Bell, Dr. Fritze, Ms. Hughes, Mr. Stepp, Dr. Quinnell, Dr. Turner-White, and Mr. Latham are in favor; Ms. Bowling is opposed. Event and \$2,000 funding is approved due to majority vote. Details will be worked out at a later date.

Ms. Bowling voiced her concerns over the possible location of the event. She wants to be sure that no matter where the event is held, it will be clear that the event is being hosted by Athens State and that the University will receive proper recognition.

Other possible event locations proposed include the CLL and Founders Green. Dr. Turner-White pointed out that since the event was successful in the past when it was held at a restaurant, we should continue doing what works. If the event is held off campus at a venue that does not serve alcohol and it is decided that alcohol should be incorporated, the University would have to acquire a liquor license and insurance for the event.

- **SGA & Student Activities Proposed Events** – Mr. Stepp proposed \$700 in funding to have a public showing of the film *Marshall* to coincide with Black History Month on February 10, 2018; \$800 in funding to host a double feature of the movies *Coco* and *Thor: Ragnarok* on campus February 23, 2018; and \$400 to have an Irish Band (Scooter Muse) play during Transfer Day on March 14, 2018.

Vote: All Committee members in favor; none opposed. All events and \$1,900 funding is approved.

- **Chris Biffle Whole Brain Teaching Conference** – Ms. Bell informed the Committee that Mr. Biffle is very interested in having a speaking engagement in the South. He has made it clear that he does not want admission to be charged for such an event. James Clemens High School in Madison, AL has offered to host the event in their auditorium and give us access to their classrooms to use for breakout sessions at no cost to us. \$4,000 in funding has been requested. Ms. Hughes suggested potentially partnering with Calhoun Community College for the event because they have the needed space. Ms. Bell would prefer that Athens State receive sole credit for the event if possible.

Vote: All Committee members in favor; none opposed. Event and \$4,000 funding is approved.

Due to time constraints, not all proposed events were able to be discussed. Mr. Latham will send out a group email for further event discussion.

Meeting Adjourned.