

## Livingston Concert/Lecture Series Committee Minutes

November 29, 2018

In Attendance: Kimberly Bell, Tonyia Bowling, Ron Fritze, Stacie Hughes, Katherine Quinnell, Darlene Turner-White (via phone), Chris Latham (Chair), and Lauren Blackledge (Recorder)

Absent: none

Mr. Latham called the meeting to order and had the Committee review the meeting minutes from the Committee's last meeting on July 27, 2018. No corrections were proposed – the minutes were approved.

After the approval of the meeting minutes, the Livingston Concert/Lecture Series Sponsorship Guidelines were reviewed. Two new guidelines were added to the "Process" portion of the document and introduced to the Committee:

Per Chris Latham:

- "Sponsorship Request Form" is completed and submitted to a Committee member for consideration (or completed electronically through the Athens State website)

Per Business Office:

- Funds requested from Business Office for Payment
  - All requests for payment must be accompanied by an invoice or receipts to support the reimbursement

**Vote: All in favor. The additions to the guidelines were approved by the Committee.**

Mr. Latham created a Sponsorship Request Form to be used by the Committee going forward. The purpose of this form is to help streamline the event planning process and improve documentation of event information. The form will be put on Athens State's website for interested parties to fill out and submit to the Committee. The request forms will be compiled monthly by Mr. Latham and sent out to Committee members to vote on.

- There is a section on the form that requests an estimated price per person for the proposed event. Mr. Latham suggested that if the cost is more than \$15 per person, the Committee should seek out a VP's approval before moving forward with the event.
- There is also a section of the form where actual event attendance can be recorded. This information is helpful for the University. Tracking attendance will give greater insight into the popularity of events and will allow the Committee to make better choices in regards to planning future University events.

**Vote: All in favor; none opposed. Use of the Sponsorship Request Form going forward is approved by the Committee.**

Dr. Quinnell proposed that a post-event survey be sent out to guests to gauge their satisfaction with the event. No formal vote was taken, but there was a sense of agreement among the rest of the Committee. Mr. Latham said that a survey could be created and sent to guests via email or social media.

### **2018/2019 Event Update**

- Tickets for “An Evening with Sean of the South” went on sale Tuesday, November 27. The event sold out in 5 hours. Mr. Latham has started a wait list for those that are still interested in attending. Any additional tickets that become available will be given out on a first come, first served basis to those who are on the wait list. “An Evening with Sean of the South” is scheduled to take place on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 6:00 PM in McCandless Hall.
- The Nelson Lauver event was a success. Mrs. Kerner’s marketing class did an outstanding job promoting the show, resulting in an excellent turnout.
- Dr. Fritze commented that the Varieties of the Religious Experience Series had about 30 people attend each of the four events.
- Tickets for the “Committed” Holiday Concert are currently on sale. The group is thrilled to be able to perform a show in the Huntsville area. The event’s radio ad is currently running on WZYP and Channel 48 will be interviewing Ms. Bell to further promote the event.

### **New Sponsorship Requests**

The following new events were discussed:

- **Fiddlers Concert Series** – The Fiddlers Steering Committee is introducing a four-part concert series that will keep the Fiddlers Convention top-of-mind throughout the year. The first concert, featuring Rob Ickes and Trey Hensley, will be held on January 10, 2019. The other three concerts will be spaced out to where they gradually lead up to the 2019 Fiddlers Convention in October. The Fiddlers Committee is requesting \$5,000 (\$1,250 per concert) to offset the expense.

**Vote: All in favor; none opposed. The appropriation of \$5,000 to help fund the concert series is approved.**

- **400: An Afrikan Epic, Wexner Center for the Arts** – The program is both a performance of selections from the *400: An Afrikan Epic*, a 12-album cycle that will be released in January 2019, and a discussion among the audience and the performers. The music and discussion explore Black America in pre-colonial Afrika, the Ma’afa, and Afro-futurism. This event was proposed by student activities to celebrate Black History Month. The program would cost \$7,500 for a 90 minute show with Q&A session.
  - Mr. Latham is concerned that this event is too obscure to draw a decent crowd. Its high cost per person does not make financial sense for the Committee to fund it.
  - If the event is held, Athens State could partner with Calhoun and hold the event at the ACA. Even then, the cost per person would be approximately \$50.00.
  - Necedah Henderson is researching other options for the University to pursue for Black History Month.
  - The Committee would like to allocate \$2,500 - \$3,000 to a Black History Month event.

**No vote held.**

- **Community Breakfast in Honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.** – Event was proposed by Ms. Bell. She is currently working with Robbie White to plan a breakfast for the community in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. The event would begin with a brief devotional, followed by remarks by Carolyn McKinstry (survivor of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church bombing). Food will be catered by Food Fite. The event will be free to the public and is scheduled to be held Friday, January 18, 2019 from approximately 8:30 – 10:30 am. \$1,200 has been requested to help cover speaker and food costs.

**Vote: All in favor; none opposed. Event and up to \$1,200 in funding is approved.**

- **Women’s Leadership Symposium** – Event was proposed by Ms. Bell. This year’s event theme will be “Beyond the Glass Ceiling – No More Limits” and will feature Dr. Ruth Jones as the key note speaker. The symposium is currently scheduled for April 10, 2019. Guests will be charged to attend. Funds (possibly around \$1,000) will be needed to help cover the cost of speakers and/or student admission. Dr. Quinnell would like the Committee to allocate more than \$1,000 to this event. Terry Stepp used to help with this event, and it is possible that Necedah Henderson could help with it this year.

**No vote taken. Vote will be taken electronically once more pricing information is known.**

**Other Notes**

Necedah Henderson has been added to the Committee to fill Terry Stepp's vacancy as student activities representative.

Meeting Adjourned.