

**Board of Directors | Gunn Commons 330 and Zoom Video Option**

**Friday | June 24, 2022 | 2:30 pm (CST)**

1. **Call to Order:**

The summer quarterly meeting of the UNA National Alumni Association Board of Directors was held on Friday, June 24, 2022, in person and via Zoom. President Susan Adams presided, with Executive Secretary present, and called the meeting to order at 2:38 pm.

1. **Roll Call and Quorum Report:**

**Present Executive Committee Members:** Susan Adams, Bishop Alexander, Mike Byers, Lisa Clayton, Mary Leigh Gillespie, John Haeger, Will Hodges, Latasha Howell, and Christa Raney

**Present Board-at-Large Members:** Rita Buckley, Gaye Choat, Mike Curtis, Ty Dennis, Cody Holder, Ann-Marie Irons, Scott R. Milliet, Haley Newton, Savannah Liles, Sherri Stewart, Holly Tate, and Denise Watts

**Present Alumni and Affinity Club Presidents**: Jeanne Cook, Central Mississippi Club; Lawrence Davis, Central Florida Alumni Club; Jamie Ellis, Nashville Alumni Club; Joshua Lambert, Greater Shoals Area Club; John Williams, Black Alumni Affinity Club

**Absent Executive Committee Members**: Jeremy Baham and Anna Milwee

**Absent Board-at-Large Members:** Kimberly West Alewine, Ryan Clayton, Chris Depew, Clayton Grider, Allison Hall, Nichole Henderson, Eric Kirkman, Tina Smith, Holly Tate, Christy Waters, and Chris Whitten

**Absent Alumni Club Presidents:** Jessica Brown, Greater Memphis Area Club; Austin Bullock, Greater Birmingham Club; Chris Lucas, Greater East Alabama Club; and Jose Morgan, Huntsville/Madison County Area Club

**Present Non-Board Members:** Patty Byers, Trinity Owens, Gale Satchel, and DeAnna Tidwell

1. **Approval of Minutes and Agenda:**

Sherri made a motion to accept the 05/12/2022 Executive Committee meeting minutes and the 06/24/2022 agenda as emailed. Mike B. provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **Virtual Speakers:** Ms. Kristen Richardson and Ms. Letitia Clementi, consultants from *Working Advantage*, demonstrated the *Working Advantage* program and provided an overview of the website.
2. **NAA Officer Standing Committee Reports:**
   1. **2022 Standing Committees—**Susan invited committee chairs to report.
      1. **Community Affairs Committee—**Latashareported that she and Josh met today at the Summit to discuss the Handy event, which is Tuesday, July 26 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Off the Chain will headline the event. Gaye is scheduling volunteers, so please contact her. Latasha requested that people share the flyer (emailed by Bishop).

In addition, the committee will set up a table on September 2 at the UNA First Friday event. The committee also plans to participate in the Community Trick-or-Treat in October and Ring the Bell with the Salvation Army in December.

* + 1. **Alumni Awards Committee—**Will reported that his committee met last week to choose alumni awards winners. The winners are currently being contacted and will be announced at a later date. The committee met today at the Summit to discuss changes to next year’s process. The committee will meet again to put together a folder for next year’s chair and committee.
  1. **Alumni and Affinity Club Reports—**Susan invited Alumni and Affinity Club Presidents to report.
     1. **Black Alumni Affinity Group**—John reported that his group met to discuss plans for homecoming.
     2. **Greater Birmingham Alumni Club—**Susan gave the Greater Birmingham Alumni Club report in Austin’s absence. Around 50 people attended the event at the Cahaba Brewing Company on June 22, including the Birmingham leadership team and UNA representatives.
     3. **Greater Shoals Alumni Club—**Josh, President of the Greater Shoals Alumni Club, reported that the club is hosting a large alumni event tonight at the Alabama Music Hall of Fame in Tuscumbia. Sandra Burroughs, an alumna, is partnering with the club to host the event. Around 75 people have responded to the invitation.

Josh added that there are several openings for club officers. Please recruit potential alumni to fill these positions. The club is also looking for new ideas, including bringing back Derby Day.

Gale announced that UNA alumni will receive a $2 discount off ticket prices for *The Miracle Worker* (the Helen Keller play) if they wear purple and gold. Fifty tickets have been set aside for tonight’s and tomorrow night’s performances.

* + 1. **Greater Memphis Alumni Club**—Scott, the newly elected President of the Greater Memphis Alumni Club, spoke briefly about the new club.

1. **Finance Report:** Mike B. gave the Finance Report.
   1. **NAA Distinguished Endowed Scholarship—**The balance is $32,656.61. This account provides scholarships to students.
   2. **NAA Greatest Needs Fund—**The balance is **$**35,987.61. This fund is the Association’s operating fund. The fiscal year started with a balance of $49,102.02. If we approve and spend the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget, the fund will be deleted by an additional $13,000. Last year, we had one fundraising event: Lions Under the Lights, which netted $5,200. As a result, the AA is spending approximately $6 for every $1 raised. The Alumni Association does not have a spending problem, but it does have a revenue problem.

Mike B. described how to give to the Greatest Needs Fund. He also discussed the need for budgets and for standing committee chairs to solicit sponsors for events.

* 1. **NAA Current-Use Fund—**The balanceis $2,813.70. This fund is available to fill specific student needs. Sherri asked how these funds are distributed and what criteria is used to select students. Mike B. stated that the purpose of the fund is to meet immediate, urgent, or emergency needs of students. Regarding the exact criteria of how those requests would be approved, Bishop stated that he would write up a suggested criteria for eligibility.

1. **Old Business:** 
   1. **Summit Expenses—**Mike B. noted that the proposed budget for the Alumni Summit is $3,000. However, the intent was to find a sponsor to cover the expenses. A sponsor was not found.

Mike B. suggested establishing a standing committee to focus on the solicitation of corporate sponsors. Latasha added that she has been working incredibly hard to find sponsors for the Handy Event, and the Association needs help from all Board members. Rita added that these sponsors need something in return for their sponsorship.

The Summit expenses include the following amounts: $834.39 for breakfast provided by Rhoda P. (6/24); $750.00 for lunch provided by Taco Mama (6/24); and $1,126.02 for breakfast and lunch provided by Chartwells (6/25). The grand total is $2,710.41.

Mike C. made a motion to spend $2,710.41 to cover expenses for the Alumni Summit, and Lawrence provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **New Business:**
   1. **Alumni Discount Program Proposal (Vote Required)—**Mike B. explained that the *Working Advantage* benefits programs will be a part of a tiered program. He then explained the tiers.

**Tier 1 Membership**: Legacy Alumni Association membership level. All UNA graduates are automatically members. No dues required. No enhanced benefits.

**Tier 2 Membership**: All of benefits of Tier 1 PLUS invitations to special events, such as the Alumni Christmas Party and other Association events as well as access to *Working Advantage*, the Alumni Association’s discount program providing nationwide discounts on hotels, theme parks, movie tickets, autos, home appliances, and much more. Dues will be $25/year.

**Tier 3 Membership**: All benefits of Tiers 1 & 2 PLUS membership in the **UNA Alumni Pinnacle Club**. Pinnacle Club members have access to an upgraded tailgating experience at all UNA home football games at Braly Stadium featuring catered food, wine & beer, and a big screen TV featuring the biggest games of the day prior to UNA’s kickoff. Dues will be $75/person or $120/couple per year. New UNA graduates can join at a discounted rate of $40/person or $65/couple per year for the first 3 years after they graduate.

**Tier 4 Membership**: All benefits of Tiers 1, 2, & 3 PLUS an *enhanced* **Pinnacle Club** Membership that provides one special event at the Pierce luxury suite at a UNA Men’s and Women’s doubleheader AND tailgating events with UNA Baseball and Softball (one each). Dues will be $125/person or $200/couple per year. New UNA graduates can join at this level for a discounted rate of $70/person or $110/couple per year for the first 3 years after they graduate.

**Lifetime Membership**: Lifetime membership carrying Tier 4 benefits is available for $750/person or $1200/couple

Jamie asked that non-Shoals residents be considered as this tier system is implemented. For example, she suggested that drink tickets be available for higher tiered members at out-of-town alumni club events.

Mike noted that the *Working Advantage* program has already been voted on and approved. He requested approval to marry the *Working Advantage* program to the Tier 2 program by voting to establish $25 dues. The committee is not prepared to move forward with Tier 2 and Tier 3. The rollout date for the entire tier program is next year.

Sherri made a motion to marry the *Working Advantage* benefits program to the Tier 2 program by adopting $25 dues. Will provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.

* 1. **NAA Operating Budget, FY 22 (Vote Required)**—Mike B. asked Board members to review the proposed FY 22 operating budget (emailed to Board members on 6/21).

Denise made a motion to accept the FY 22 budget as presented, and Sherri provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **Discussion:**
   1. **2022 – 2023 NAA Board, Call for Nominations—**Mary Leigh announced nominations are open for the Executive Committee and for the Board of Directors at Large. Please contact Bishop and Mary Leigh to submit nominations or use the online form. Criteria is available online. Nominations will close at the end of August.
2. **NAA President’s Report:** Susan gave her report.
3. **Alumni Club | Summer Events:**
   * 1. **UNA Greater Birmingham Alumni Club—**UNA Alumni Night was held on June 22 at the Cahaba Brewing Company from 5:30 – 7:30 pm.
     2. **UNA Greater Shoals Alumni Club**—UNA Alumni Happy Hour will be tonight, June 24, at the Alabama Music Hall of Fame from 5:30 – 7:00 pm.
4. **New Campus Hires:**
   1. **Vice President of Student Affairs**—Dr. Kathleen White is UNA’s new Vice President of Student Affairs. She joins UNA from Florida State University, and her official start date is July 1.
   2. **UNA Jobs**—Apply for jobs at UNA at <https://jobs.una.edu/>.
5. **Alumni Director’s Report:** Bishop gave his report.
6. **Homecoming Website Launch, July 11**—TheHomecoming Alumni Celebration will be held on September 23 at Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa Conference Center. More details to come.
7. **UNA Summer Commencement, Saturday, July 30th, Norton Auditorium**—Summer commencement ceremonies will be Saturday, July 30 at 9:00 am and 11:30 am at Norton Auditorium. UNA will graduate 297 students. All ceremonies will be live-streamed on [UNA’s Official YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/c/universityofnorthalabama).
8. **Good News and Campus Announcements:**

Susan and Bishop reported on upcoming events and noted opportunities for Board members to participate.

1. **Higher Education Educator of the Year—**Dr. Ann-Marie Irons was awarded the Higher Education Educator of the Year. She accepted the award.
2. **Alumni Heroes Awards—**Susan and Bishop awarded Ty Dennis the Alumni Heroes Award for his work with Clippers and Cops. Earlier in the day, Susan and Bishop awarded Hunner Creel Sandifer the Alumni Heroes Award for her work with Zach Packs.
3. **UNA Night at W.C. Handy Music Festival**—UNA Night at W.C. Handy Music Festival will be held on Tuesday, July 26, 2022 – 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. The opening band is Bo & the Boys (6:00 – 6:45), and the headliner band is Off the Chain (7:00 – 9:00). The event will take place on North Court Street Median – Florence, AL. Bring lawn chairs, ice coolers, etc. Food trucks will be available. Co-Hosts are Miss UNA 2022 Claire Hendrickson and Hunter Jackson (Radio Personality).
4. **UNA Homecoming Weekend, September 22 – 24—**UNA’s Homecoming Weekend will take place from September 22 – 24. This year’s theme is ***Our TraD1tion Roars On***. Weekend festivities include the following events: Homecoming Pep rally, Homecoming Alumni Celebration – Marriott Shoals Conference Center, North Alabama Athletics Hall of Fame Induction, Homecoming Parade, Lunch on the Lawn – Alumni & Friends, Tailgating with the Lions – Spirit Hill, Lion Walk, Pre-Game Show – Braly Stadium, Kickoff – North Alabama vs Tarleton State University, and Half-Time Show – Featuring North Alabama Marching Band.
5. **Miss Alabama Pageant—**Savannah reminded Board members that Miss UNA Claire Hendrickson participates in the Miss Alabama pageant this weekend.
6. **Alpha Delta Pi News**—Dawn Victor-Herring ’92 was elected the International President of Alpha Delta Pi.
7. **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christa Raney

Executive Secretary

**Mark Your Calendars – Plan Ahead**

**2022 NAA Executive Board – Virtual**

* ~~January 13, 2022 - 8:00 am – 9:00 am (CST)~~
* ~~March 10, 2022 – 8:00 am – 9:00 am (CST)~~
* ~~May 12, 2022 - 8:00 am – 9:00 am (CST)~~
* July 14, 2022 – 8:00 am – 9:00 am (CST)
* September 8, 2022 – 8:00 am – 9:00 am (CST)

**2022 NAA Board of Directors – Virtual**

* ~~January 20, 2022 – 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm (CST)~~
* ~~March 17, 2022 – 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm (CST)~~
* ~~June 24, 2022 – 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm (CST)~~
* September 15, 2022 – 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm (CST)