

AAEB January 20 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Attendance -

01202024 Resolutions and Attendance

Intern Schedule

- Sophia Getz has been onboarded as an intern for the spring semester
- She will be working with the board members throughout her rotation and getting to learn about everyone's position and helping them on projects

Barbara, Leadership Conference

- AAEB has purchased 10 tickets for the SLC - 9 virtual and 1 in-person
- Sophia will be attending the conference in person
- If any board member is interested in attending virtually, they should let Barbara know

Maddie, Historian

- Maddie moved the Association repository of documents to the shared drive so it is easy for everyone to access
- The folder has been shared with the entire group

Karen, President (Absent, offline updates)

- The Advancement office has hired 2 new staff members
- Jubilee reunion happening for classes ending in 4 celebrating milestone reunion in June 2024
- President Wooten will be engaging in virtual town halls with the alum community to learn about what's going on at Simmons and stay informed. Encourage board members to attend those
- Newsletter is being worked on by Priyal that will be sent out to all alums
- A special recognition will be given to Peggy Saslow at the May annual meeting to celebrate her life
- Maddie shared pictures of the new logos for the 125th anniversary with the board and everyone liked the new graphic

Barbara & Fay, Treasurer & Assistant Treasurer Updates

- Sophia has been set up as the intern for Spring 2024 from a payroll perspective.
- She will be paid for 10hrs every week

- Fay and Barbara will figure out how much to transfer from Vanguard
- The Association's book-keeping services
-

Fay B: I really like them. I think a lot more than last time. The only thing that I just noticed is on the last one. The last s is kind of chopped off and I don't know if that's just the way it came out. But ...

Maddie Gretzky: That is just there's I'm sorry,...

Fay B: okay ...

Maddie Gretzky: my screen is too small...

Fay B: Thank you. That's why okay.

Maddie Gretzky: because I was trying to look at you guys. Okay, so it actually has this people in there as well. Sorry.

Fay B: Yeah, okay, okay.

Fay B: Yeah, okay. No, I had a big improvement of what we sell out the last meeting.

Maddie Gretzky: yeah, and then this is obviously for the reunion in 2025. So this would be specific to that event. So yeah, I think these are awesome.

00:30:00

Kelly O'Connell: I'll just weigh in since I waited last time. I think this is a significant improvement in terms of relevance to modern design and ease for being able to put them on other things so great job. Taking the feedback.

Maddie Gretzky: Okay, I agree. I think these are great and I think the cupola being like a focal point. It not only is in line with a lot of sentences branding choices, but also

Maddie Gretzky: considering that we are going to be in the near future losing the residential campus as a sort of physical historical place that is meaningful to alums and I don't know if anyone's driven by sentiment the other day, but the bus that I was on on Wednesday took me right by and the science center is gone. So I think having holding on to the thing that we're not knocking down is great.

Maddie Gretzky: Okay, Barbara and or

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Thank you. As far as project updates, you've heard me talk about this already, but we set up Sophia and you can see her head here today, and she's been on boarded and set up with the bookkeeper for payroll. And then we'll be doing an auto deposit. and she set up for a schedule which

Maddie went over when she's going to meet with each of us and I will request reminder of a board meeting

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Which she does get paid to end? And the senior leadership conference.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Faye and I will look into the transfer from Vanguard once we have some year-round figures. and that explains why there aren't any figures right here is we've set up our bookkeeping service on a quarterly basis. And now we're into monthly meetings. And every time we ask for something outside of our quarterly basis, it costs us money to have the bookkeepers. Do another set of reports that we really kind of need for today. So we're waiting for our 23 quarterlies and then we'll make our decisions based on that. And Faye if you would like to discuss. the fundraising aspects and the issues with credit cards and

Fay B: so for those who are on previous meetings, we've been talking about the fact that in order to maintain. I'm not 90. Status and our 501c3 as a not-for-profit organization. We are going to have to do some fundraising because we have monies that come in for some sources, but the requirement is at a certain percentage of it has to be from direct fundraising. and so I spoke with in December about Whether the Alumni Association was set up to be able to do our own fundraising and she pointed out That since we don't have the option of being able to accept credit cards.

Fay B: No, we don't and everything would be run through the university and A previous meeting Karen had suggested that we raise funds through the 125th. celebration that would go to the Alumni Association But Chrissy informed me that what they're going to do is that with the registration for those who want to participate they will be able to make a donation directly at that time. And those funds will not go to the Alumni Association but to the university.

Fay B: so Either we need to look into. getting away to be able to take credit cards, which is a lot of work and this fees associated with it and everything or what she had suggested is that we come under the umbrella of the University like the American Alumni Association is

00:35:00

Maddie Gretzky: that you say getting the ability to take credit cards. I feel like that might be something that is feasible through our website. because we have the Wix site and there's I'm sure a version of that website where you can Except credit card payments. What do we have that set How would we do that unclear at this time, but my concern always with handing control over things to the university is that sometimes they either don't want to give it back or they just sort of have their own goals, and I think especially if we're Thinking about the 125th coming up like having it set up so that we can accept donations would be.

Maddie Gretzky: probably beneficial

Fay B: Maddie I'm glad to hear that because I feel like you do if we become go under their umbrella to say we do lose a lot of our autonomy and they're going to control what we're going to be able to do as far as a Ward's and things like that and I personally feel that we will one. Yeah.

Maddie Gretzky: Yeah, also, I'm a little salty that they maybe are happy to suddenly handle things for the financial component. But everything else they've kind of been figure it out. so Kelly I see your hand.

Fay B: Yeah.

Kelly O'Connell: Thank you. So I just want to make sure I understand.

Kelly O'Connell: The conversation so the first was making sure that as an organization to maintain a nonprofit entity status that we directly fundraised. So I think that influences our decision regardless of the sort of power or control element. I think we are an individual 501c3 nonprofit and so making sure that that separate is important second is the logistics and there are Services now for nonprofits that are designed to be easy. This is something I help works with often as simple as a Zelle for nonprofit, which is a PayPal company with our tax exempt status from the IRS. It's relatively easy to set that up. I'm not in the treasures group. So I don't want to put work on your team Barbara, but I'm here to help and I like

Kelly O'Connell: the people who've spoken before me would encourage us to have a separate race just to make sure that we're following the compliance for step one because we are a separate entity and I think just from a financial control standpoint that something that is important for us?

Maddie Gretzky: Good point Kelly.

Fay B: and say that the whole conversation started was because I wanted to make my donation to The Alumni Association and not to the university so that I could help meet those criteria that we needed to raise money and nobody and so they put me in touch with Chrissy to find out how I could do that and she's like, it's so happy. You're going to make a donation to the university and I'm like, no, I really want to make it to the Alumni Association and in the past. I've always put it on my credit card. And so that's where the whole conversation started.

Maddie Gretzky: yeah, I

Barbara Campbell Harvey: If you a chat you can see that. Elaine has brought to my attention that she believes the bookkeeping service can provide. A source for credit cards I will look into that first thing tomorrow. and I see that Kaitlin has put in something about wild apricot, which

Kaitlin Maloney: It's just that just the blog post about different options for taking online payments for nonprofits. It looks I think they mentioned zelle and the different types of things that we should probably keep in mind for those payments and it might be a good starting point.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Actually Kaitlin. I'm really glad you mentioned that because on my meeting I have planned I have some assignments for you and...

Kaitlin Maloney: Great.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: as Venmo, the other one is Val and to look into those. Types of options. I know that we cannot use zelle with TD Bank

00:40:00

Barbara Campbell Harvey:

Maddie Gretzky: This is true about TD Bank. Yeah, they are annoying. That way I will say given that in particularly the alums who we would love to get donations for are older. I feel like going with a more recognizable name like PayPal or something like that where because I feel like a lot of folks might not know what zelle is but they would know what PayPal is I understand it's all under PayPal's umbrella, but for if we're asking people to give their money to us, I want them to feel comfortable about that process. So

Fay B: And there are still people like myself. I don't do Zella PayPal or any of those I either do my credit card or a check. I just don't feel comfortable with doing them.

Maddie Gretzky: so I think with PayPal or venmo or Zell? Probably they're like the processing sort of managers. So they would accept and process the credit card payment. So you would still be able to use your credit card on your end

Maddie Gretzky: that is really good to know say that that's something we need to be working on.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: That's cool. That's actually the agenda for our next. Finance meeting but the big point I want to talk about is what do you need help with? And I am waiting to hear from John lapac who is part of the alumni advancement office. We've had an issue with Liberty Mutual which I reported last month.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: I can't get any answers in John from the inside is trying to get answers. because if in fact Simmons has broken their arrangement with Liberty Mutual. Then we need to find another source of income and I mean right away now. We don't know that for a fact what we do know is that we did not receive a July or October payment.

Elaine McCarthy: And how is it that Chrissy does not know about this? anything

Barbara Campbell Harvey: I don't know the answer that question and I did ask Chrissy about it and she gave me the name of somebody to talk to. I've talked to 16 different people and it's been very circular since I started trying to talk to people last March. because when we switched over to TD Bank

Barbara Campbell Harvey: I can't get answers and I'm not sure. if John can get answers from the inside and...

Elaine McCarthy: What does John do?

Barbara Campbell Harvey: John works for the advancement office but a hundred years ago. He was a Bowden student who worked for me as was his fiancee.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: I've essentially lit a fire under the two of them to get This get some answers for us.

Elaine McCarthy: this has been going on for what close to a year?

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Yeah since April.

Elaine McCarthy: I don't get it.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: And are much what our status is with Liberty Mutual? and I know Kelly has her hand raised, but she came up with a comment on it Kelly. Do you want to speak up?

Kelly O'Connell: I just was going to ask if you had had a chance to talk with anybody directly at Liberty Mutual. I know you said you talked with 16 different people, but from their partnership section with our own 501c3 We should be able to be an Associated partner directly right? So I'm just wondering It lets assume. if the worst is that Simmons has broken their Arrangement, we've benefited greatly. Is there a way for us to understand what it would be for us to have a direct relationship with them outside of

Simmons. And in terms of the comment, I use Liberty Mutual and so annually, I always just select synonyms. I wasn't able to select this year. So I just raised that because it was the first time. I wasn't able to choose Simmons as my

Kelly O'Connell: Associated affiliation for the charitable gift back. So that's just a note.

Fay B: And so maybe Barbara what you had mentioned to me yesterday. That's a contract is expired and to be renewed. Is true if you didn't have that option Kelly to select Simmons.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: That made me think about all my years at Boden College where we were on ten year contracts with different things like one month my AT&T bill. was 69.99 and the next month that was 130 dollars because the connection through both and discontinued on a certain date but to the question have I called Liberty Mutual you bet I have and I've called the alumni office and then I've asked everybody and the runaround I'm getting people at Liberty Mutual give me a phone number and say call and that's a person who used to work at Simmons, but left four years ago. So then I try their boss. And get less information.

00:45:00

Barbara Campbell Harvey: so Bobby who was a previous co-president. She wanted me to directly speak to the bosses and find out what was going on. That's not my style and be I didn't want to cause an uproar. So I'm trying to be polite about this but it affects us financially in the meantime. Faye is working on other forms of fundraising. And Kaitlin I will be assigning you to look into. What can we do using TD Bank? Because they don't take sell.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: what are the sources? So that's where we stand right now. We're up in the air. You have not seen. and Kelly, thank you very much, but I want somebody in the alumni office to listen to me.

Fay B: But Kelly brought up that maybe we can just go directly and we don't have to go through Simmons to do this.

Elaine McCarthy: I think it's better to first start with Simmons. It's a great idea if we get nowhere, but I wouldn't. it could be something as simple as a contract not renewed like you said Faye and Barbara when Bobby said speak to the boss. Are you talking about President Wooten? Who?

Barbara Campbell Harvey: No, she meant the directors of Liberty Mutual. She said call a board meeting.

Elaine McCarthy: That's going to be really hard to do. I suggest either the treasurer's office at Simmons. they ought to The finance department in connection with the treasurer's office should know every contract. that we have or don't have That a trustee to help us get through the red tape and go directly to Liberty Mutual. We must have someone on the Board of Trustees that Get this information for us. I would think. Any suggestions as to someone that would help us.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: the reason I started with John lapak is he's in the advancement office and he has an inner root to Simmons, but he

Barbara Campbell Harvey: he's Limited in what he can do. So I will take these suggestions. and start again

Barbara Campbell Harvey: this is a

Elaine McCarthy: I would only be happy to help you Barbara.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Thank you Elaine. This is a bigger issue.

Fay B: I would too Barbara.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Than just the funding. It's an issue of lack of two-way communication

Fay B: In the fact that you said that Liberty Mutual the person they referred you to have left four years ago. Yeah, so their records haven't been updated.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Yeah.

Fay B: So if they were trying to reach her. Unless somebody is taking over her email or something like that.

Fay B: Things may never wear that the contract was expiring.

Maddie Gretzky: Barbara and I have in the boxes of scans that are still sitting in my living room is a lot of historical Liberty Mutual information. Now it ends in 2017. I think so not super up to date. But if any of that historical context would be helpful. I can all work on adding that. into the

Fay B: but Maddie and...

Maddie Gretzky: new Repository

00:50:00

Fay B: Maddie, I'm sanctions up, but that's a little confusing because if you said what you have ended in 17, but our payment didn't...

Maddie Gretzky: That just ends.

Fay B: until

Maddie Gretzky: No, no, that's just when this box was put aside and...

Fay B: okay. I'm sorry. I misunderstood.

Maddie Gretzky: yeah, I think that the person who was the staff person in charge of monitoring this stuff left in 17 18. So most of these records sort of Hit a wall and...

Fay B: Okay.

Maddie Gretzky: stuff continued happening. We just don't have as good records for that.

Fay B: So I misunderstood.

Fay B: Thank you.

Maddie Gretzky: No, no,...

Maddie Gretzky: that's okay.

Maddie Gretzky: Okay, are we okay to move on from treasury with these points?

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Thank you very much for listening to my concerns.

Maddie Gretzky: The Barbara thank you for pounding the pavement and calling. an extensive list of people and hopefully with our high mind of Genius we can get some traction here because definitely it wouldn't surprise me if

Maddie Gretzky: Somebody left the men's and then that kind of something fell through the cracks. We see that story a lot unfortunately. Okay, Courtney.

Courtney Bryant: No, hi, I'm again apologies for being a few minutes late. It's good to see everybody and I love seeing the four-legged friends behind us. My dog is yelping around here student Outreach. So we've made some progress. I've had a few meetings with Chrissy Raposa and with the class president. And so we're gonna do the countdown to graduation. networking events Ideally, it's March 28th. We're just confirming the calendars with the Simmons folks and if that doesn't work, then it'll be March 21st. It'll be six to eight on campus. We're still working out the details of what this will be like.

Courtney Bryant:

Courtney Bryant: I guess last year Maddie you may know they did a tables and little games you could learn about the Alumni Association and...

Maddie Gretzky: Yeah.

Courtney Bryant: networking Etc. So that is in play costs. to be determined they'll be catering costs. And then this is a question to the group. Does the University usually fund do we split it? How does it work?

Maddie Gretzky: So we've only done it once so not really a trend yet last year. I believe we covered all of the catering and bar costs.

Maddie Gretzky: Maybe the printing costs. But other than that it was kind of split between us and then the alumni office and the class of 2023 last year we had it in the lpk rental of that was free like a lot of the stuff.

Courtney Bryant: Okay.

Maddie Gretzky: In terms of the room set up and whatever that was pretty much free or close to it. As long as you requested it far enough in advance. of course the tricky part is we can't request anything. Yeah the student or Chrissy had to do it. but basically because there were limitations on what their budgets could cover in terms of food and alcohol. That was the area where I was like we can cover that and

Maddie Gretzky: I think that might have been the only thing we covered honestly the total cost overall wasn't actually that high because we were hosting it house as an Inns and saving money in those ways.

Courtney Bryant: So, it will be on campus whether it's the lpk center or another venue. It'll be on campus for students and staff not appropriate guests for the University. so one of the things that whether it takes

place at this countdown to graduation event or outside of that forum is working with the students to review resumes for seniors. And the reason why this is being brought up the center for career like education. is short staffed

Courtney Bryant: and there Chrissy has received some feedback that they're really don't have the bandwidth to do this for all the students. I can't comment on the validity of that statement. But one of the things we were thinking of and Elaine already had said she would be open to this would be if we could get some alums that have a background in some disciplines to volunteer to review CVS and then perhaps it would be like a 10-minute call with the student to walk through the CV. That was one thing proposed, but I will pause there to see from some of the younger alums or Sophia from a student perspective, thoughts on that, but Morgan do you want to check?

00:55:00

morgan ward: yeah, I was gonna say, happy to volunteer I had Gotten my bachelor's at Simmons and Public Health. And then I'm actually working on my nursing resume and very timely for me and I got a student job with my nursing resume recently. So I'm happy to help out on in that way.

Courtney Bryant: That would be great.

Maddie Gretzky: Yeah, there are so many nursing students and the board doesn't have a good coverage of. Nursing professionals on it. So that's awesome Morgan.

Courtney Bryant: Kaitlin

Kaitlin Maloney: Just want to say I'm happy to look over a resume. I've worked in nonprofit and in now public accounting so I could help with Finance anybody that is more General wants to go into nonprofit. But also it's gonna say when I was doing my masters at Bentley, they had this great software called bemac. and it basically gay I think it was very much AI driven. It's probably even improved since I used it, but I feel like something like that might also be a more affordable alternative than hiring staff to look at every single seniors resume. So just a thought there.

Courtney Bryant: and what was it called Kaitlin?

Kaitlin Maloney: I believe it was called vmok. Let me see if I can find it.

Courtney Bryant: Okay.

morgan ward: Yeah, Kaitlin. They had the same at Hopkins too right now that I'm using and I went through so you put it through that Ai, and then you fix it all up and then meet with someone if you have more questions, it's a very cool software.

Courtney Bryant: I can certainly pass that on. I don't know the price points or anything like that. Sophia

Sophia Getz: Yeah, as a senior. I think that if it's more affordable than the AI thing could be a good secondary way to do things. But I feel like it's really helpful to have an actual person to bounce things off of and talk through what would be good to have on a resume and what things like aren't really necessary. things like that

Courtney Bryant: okay.

Elaine McCarthy: that's why I said to Courtney that I would help her because I have 35 years in human resources, so I've looked at a few resumes. And actually redone I redo a lot of them. for younger folks that work at the Country Club

Courtney Bryant: on there

Maddie Gretzky: Courtney and what I would also be happy for Liberal Arts Majors, but also in terms of the career center being short staff that is also exactly...

Courtney Bryant: Okay.

Maddie Gretzky: what the situation was one year ago. So

Maddie Gretzky: not surprising to me that that hasn't gotten better and also that they're stretched. within that this is The Chronic issue with Simmons right now is every department is understaffed. And for some reason we don't think be doing anything to address the understanding issue. but

Courtney Bryant: So that's great. I'm going to take you all up on these pieces more to follow on the details and I'll reach out to everybody on what the process is and everything. We talked about resume review and then one thing that Chrissy brought up is and I don't know if this should go through caring or whatever but the senior alumni award and I guess historically the university nominates the students but we fund these alumni Awards. And Chrissy just brought that up in my last meeting with her. So I'll pause there.

01:00:00

Courtney Bryant: and she said you

Maddie Gretzky: You Morgan not to throw you into the deep end, but that would be as the new director of awards. I'd be awesome. for you to work on Courtney

morgan ward: Yeah. about that and

morgan ward: I was trying to do some research on it. So that alone is very helpful. I guess. I'm meeting with my committee pretty soon and mapping out a game plan on how to handle the different Awards and what we need to do on our end. So it is on my radar.

Maddie Gretzky: Yeah, I don't remember that usually being something that was like student outreaches. Job, but we haven't had a director of awards for a couple of years. So that might be kind of why also.

Maddie Gretzky: I feel like this maybe is one of those things that historically was something the board did and then it kind of went away for a few years and now they're trying to bring it back because I don't remember that before last year. being a big thing that we were talking about.

morgan ward: Okay.

Courtney Bryant: yes, so Morgan happy to Molly that over to you.

morgan ward: Yep, sounds good. I got the email so I will follow up. I'll probably about that.

Courtney Bryant: And anything, that's not really all I know but Anything I can do.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: As soon as we get an answer on that Morgan and Courtney, please let me know. So the Faye and I can add it into the budget and don't let What happened in the past where somebody was given an award and everyone told the treasurer. So person called me and said where's my check? And I said, what are you talking about? So Be sure to follow me into that room and...

morgan ward:

Barbara Campbell Harvey: then a Faye and I can take care of it.

morgan ward: sounds

Courtney Bryant: and I did ask Chrissy oroposa historically what has been the award amount and she just said that's for the Alumni Association to determine so

Courtney Bryant: that's where we left it.

morgan ward: Okay.

Fay B: So is this some way I just texted Barbara actually to ask her if we know in the past what has been given I know that in the budget for this year. We have Outreach Gifts of \$10,000 and I don't know how that was planned to be divvied up.

Maddie Gretzky: I think that is probably more for the physical gifts that we give to incoming students slash potentially outgoing grads rather than money gifts with an award

Fay B: I lost you Maddie.

Maddie Gretzky: so usually we as the board give a physical gift of some kind to the incoming students when they arrive so I think that's probably...

Fay B: Okay. Okay.

Maddie Gretzky: what that is referring to...

Fay B: Comment, okay.

Maddie Gretzky: but like I said, this feels like something that was like something we did and then fell off for a while. So

Maddie Gretzky: It might not have happened recently.

Courtney Bryant: And this year just to refresh and Fay. I don't know. If you are on a couple of months back. We gave to Maddie's point a Simmons University keychain to the incoming students. So we had that.

Maddie Gretzky: Yes.

Courtney Bryant: So I'll pause there and then I think I'm just going through my notes because I had a call with them yesterday. I think that's really everything one General Point Maddie if I can slightly diverge from this. Is the Simmons network. website I've been remiss I went on last night and it's really been the first time I've been on there because I couldn't get logged in and everything. and I just want to

Courtney Bryant: reflect on the system and then responses like who? Runs that and do we have any part in that?

Maddie Gretzky: Chrissy No, that's all advancement is in charge.

Courtney Bryant: Okay.

Maddie Gretzky: That's their baby. They really encourage everyone to Join it and when you go on you can identify yourself as a member of the Alumni Association board,...

Courtney Bryant: Okay.

Maddie Gretzky: but that's like something you're just indicating about yourself last year at the 50 days to grad event. There was one of the things that students Did that got them a little sticker for their passport thing was to sign up for the Simmons network?

01:05:00

Courtney Bryant: Yeah.

Maddie Gretzky: Has a lot of people on it. More or less? I don't know how I don't feel like it's that active. but if you yeah,...

Courtney Bryant: Yeah. That was my observation.

Maddie Gretzky: if you're on the board and you haven't joined it would make Chrissy's day if you did join, but yeah, it's not as thriving as I think they would. hope

Courtney Bryant: Yeah definitely concur with that. I joined updated everything, but I was kind of Puzzled as to now what it doesn't matter. I couldn't search very easily and I was just curious so

Maddie Gretzky: yeah, I mean, obviously the major limitation is that the only people who are on there are people who have elected to join. So if you're looking for alums and they're not there they haven't joined then you can't find them. so that is

Courtney Bryant: Yes.

Maddie Gretzky: hopefully that gets better as more people join though. So

Courtney Bryant: That's all I have this questions or feedback on anything.

Courtney Bryant: Okay.

Maddie Gretzky: And I'll come to the 50 days event. Also, I didn't say that earlier,...

Courtney Bryant: awesome

Maddie Gretzky: but I'll be there and

Courtney Bryant: Okay, so yeah, they'll be more information to. Come like I said, we just met yesterday Chrissy sent me the outline from last year and we'll look to mirror that and a lot of ways and to Karen's point about the new staff in the Under Christie's remit, we'll have a little bit of support from her as well. So

Maddie Gretzky: love that. Okay, we're gonna go to pan who's not here. So I will read her slide, so There is a collaboration with the forays and the BSO and basically just sort of providing support for a Black History Month tea February 17th. And Pam said she would be in attendance there. And then we're hoping to do something for women's history month and basically trying collab with other organizations.

Maddie Gretzky: I think Pam is hitting the same challenge where it's hard to know who's in charge of different. areas So actually Sophia that might be something that you can help with because you have a Simmons email and access this Simmons directory. And so that's a valuable insight. So yeah, that's a brief summary from pan Elaine.

Elaine McCarthy: I really wasn't napping. Let's see.

Maddie Gretzky: right

Elaine McCarthy: It must have been really busy for Christy reposa this week because I also called Chrissy. We were unable to speak directly. So we did a lot of emailing but the call was meant to gather some ideas for networking I would really like to get some of these positions filled. I would like to get them all filled in short order actually is my goal. So we threw around some ideas and I'm working on some of those things.

Elaine McCarthy: On following I've been networking with my committee. Who is Chris. Campbell Pope and who's helped a lot and So it's not like we're not networking, but I'm having trouble with the director of Athletics. So if anyone has any ideas. Throw them my way. Chris Conroy from the class of '76 is going to be joining my committee, which will be a nice help. It will be another set of ears and eyes to network.

Elaine McCarthy: Chris my Committee Member got two people from the class of 91 interested in. The director of marketing and the director of communications both are more than qualified for these positions and they are reviewing job descriptions as we speak and will be speaking with me this week regarding their answers and I will be thrilled.

Elaine McCarthy: To have filled both those positions thanks to Chris and get that rolling and then get them rolling with Sophia so that we can get some of the things done that have been pending in the marketing and Communications area. So I'm happy about that. also in the event either one of them is as opposed to I have a call into a classmate who is more than qualified to do this. And she has yet to get back to me. Which leads me to believe she might not be interested, but we shall see. and the last thing on my list was to which we already spoke about was that I

01:10:00

Elaine McCarthy: volunteered to help Courtney with the Endeavor that she's a planning and I would be happy to meet with students via Zoom. Like we suggested the last go around they can make an appointment or I can be available for one or two evenings from X time to X time. Not certain I can be.

Elaine McCarthy: On site as the season approaches for the Belmont Country Club where I'm director of and working like crazy to recruit people. I would like to just run by you currently the positions that are open. Where we'll be open.

Elaine McCarthy: In this year, I mentioned the director of Athletics vice president is open communication, which we hope is filled marketing which we hope is filled and then because it's such a pivotal all boohoo's Position her term will be up may of 2024. So I've started looking around now because it's going to take a

while to get someone with that skill set or perhaps we all should be thinking about promoting. If you will. I saw an HR person promoting from within if we feel that we might want to move into other positions that are Feel free to reach out to me and discuss those options as well. The last question I have

Elaine McCarthy: not questioned. First of all Maddie. I think that the thing that you're going to do with repositories great and I think that I had suggested to Karen a while back that perhaps you could do a training session with us and Ward board meeting to do that because you're more than qualified to do that as well as you have nice teaching skills. So maybe we'll speak further with Karen about that and also What is the difference between the Alumni network online and the alumni website?

Maddie Gretzky: If the website is ours the aab on that runs it it is more of just the place where information lives rather than a networking process. It's on social media site. The Simmons network is a purpose Social network for Simmons Elaine's only and it is run by the advancement office.

Elaine McCarthy: All...

Maddie Gretzky:

Elaine McCarthy: Here's my dilemma. As I am recruiting Potential candidates are going to the website and seeing the open position list, which is from 2022. That doesn't help my recruiting efforts and I need that to be updated and...

Maddie Gretzky: yeah.

Elaine McCarthy: I am not able to do that. Obviously. for many

Maddie Gretzky: yeah, yeah, so I also need the website updated and we seem to be having some trouble with getting into it because somebody who's no longer here was the last person to have the password and I emailed her and didn't hear back. So I will work on that.

Maddie Gretzky: Courtney there's a possibility that in the student Outreach inbox There are some emails pertaining to the wix. Website and access if you could take a look and maybe if it were those to me and if you find anything and...

Courtney Bryant: Yeah.

Maddie Gretzky: then I can try and reset it. And get in there.

Elaine McCarthy: That would be awesome. Thank you, and that is the end of my report today. Thanks for listening.

01:15:00

Maddie Gretzky: Thank you, Elaine. Okay.

Maddie Gretzky: Get there and I'm Kelly.

Kelly O'Connell: hi, I'm sorry for the Sleepy version of me, but Quick update.

Maddie Gretzky: Great.

Kelly O'Connell: I don't know why I formatted to the right. Obviously. I did that earlier this morning. So a the quick change of plans on.

Kelly O'Connell: the spring we're going to be doing something which I'm very excited about which is a film screening and panel as an active alumni engagement event on for two. So just ahead of the leadership conference taking advantage of the fact that many people are in town for the leadership conference. We are going to be hosting a screening that will be available to current students as well as to all alums. So I'm doing a pretty big email and digital marketing campaign to let people know about that event. The screening is going to have an winning producer card Dickens. It's currently screening this weekend at the impact Lounge at Sundance and one for film festivals and it's about

Kelly O'Connell: Wealth equity and so very excited. I think it really lines up nicely with the leadership conference which anybody who's heard me before knows that I'm trying to leverage some of the notoriety around that as a way of showing alums that we have the ability to give back to them and bring them value and so really trying to find Value ads.

Kelly O'Connell: Because we have the opportunity to do that which by the way is no cost. I got that all arranged for free for Simmons. So very very excited. In fact hoping to use it as a fundraiser for Beyond balance to make Beyond balanced in person event even bigger. And so we moved that conference. We had the fall conference virtual which was a big success which I talked about last time. We're now moving that into August to ensure that we originally had its leaded for Good Friday, which wasn't great for our thinking about women in business that we're trying to have in terms of schools being closed. So third times the charm hopefully it'll now be in person in August and that date is listed really looking for in terms of getting support. I'm student participation So Courtney, I love

Kelly O'Connell: A collab with you about how we can have active currents and in students involved in these events, whether it's welcoming people for the screening whether it's helping to promote a tiktok video I'd like to get creative to think about how we can start to bring Simmons currents and students into some of the alumni focused events. So maybe you and...

Courtney Bryant: Yeah, and...

Kelly O'Connell: I can collaborate Courtney.

Courtney Bryant: maybe I don't know if we might be able to leverage Sophia a little bit. I mean we can certainly get the student president involved but from getting the work done if we might be able to get a little bit of Sophia's time. We can look into that as well.

Kelly O'Connell: And I know Bob White the commons department is a big department at Simmons. I know it's one where people have a lot of great feelings. So what if I could coordinate something since we'll have Kai and Kai this amazing winning producer and director and a woman maybe there's a way for us to bring the communication students for a quick private chat with Kai ahead of time. there's a moment here where we can Leverage this and I love to figure out how to make that happen For us and then the other piece.

Kelly O'Connell: In terms of activities. I'm really working. I've been active in the network. I haven't found success in pain people and updating events in the Simmons network that we've talked about. So I've been working on every week a few people on LinkedIn trying to reactivate them encouraging them to get involved in the network and trying to encourage people to get active with Simmons this brings up and ask

not on my little slide, but I would love to get yet another mail merge a license. So Barbara this is over to you. I have a couple of pending budget items that I have put on this slide but not propose to you formally because I thought I needed to get permission to propose them. But I would just like to propose a little bit of a budget to do something to activate alums historically I paid for Eventbrite. I'd love for Simmons to

01:20:00

Kelly O'Connell: Cover the cost of that in am license instead of it coming from me personally, but I'm open to figuring that out. But I'm just putting it out there that's an ask.

Barbara Campbell Harvey:

Maddie Gretzky: Barbara we can't hear you if

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Yeah.

Kelly O'Connell: I think maybe Karen has to approve a budget. I don't know where the budget approval comes from. So I guess that's my ask In the absence of a budget. I just paid for things I would love. a budget

Maddie Gretzky: you're

Barbara Campbell Harvey: I'm sorry. I was having technical difficulties and I still can't get a camera to work. I hope you can hear me now. But no Karen does not have to approve the budget, Any and all budget requests directly to me and Fay to bring before our committee.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: On the finance committee. We will present it. I appreciate you having to wait. I'm sorry that I can't get the technical things. Apparently LL Bean has come online and my bandwidth Justice diminished

Maddie Gretzky: We can't hear you Barbara. Don't worry. Thank you Kelly for more update. I don't even able to join us so

Maddie Gretzky: I think these are just updates continuing to collaborate and plan with the alumni office finalizing draft of an introductory letter for distribution planning to meet with her Committee in early February, which is also early 2024 and then some other programming. plans, so Brief update there and then Morgan you are brand new. So if you have anything to say you are welcome to if you just want to sort of say I'm new that's okay, too.

morgan ward: Yeah, yes new just recently I think maybe two weeks ago. started meeting about the awards so I met with Karen I think it was a week or two ago. But before she went out of town, so my updates of that I'm gonna be working on a calendar for this year and next year because it sounds like since it hasn't been anyone in this position for a while that there's a lot of eagerness and excitement to get a lot of these Awards back on on to the

morgan ward: The board again to start doing them but it also sounds like there is a really big occasion coming up with the 125th anniversary. So, just trying to figure out what awards we feel like we can comfortably get out by May. So it sounds like the Priscilla McCarthy award is one that would like to be awarded this year and also the student awards. So those are the two so far that I think we'll have the bandwidth to get started with and get those comfortably done in May and in the meantime.

morgan ward: Plan for the remainder of the awards and there was also a proposal for a new award from today's meeting bringing those online and doing those really well next year at the 125th and kind of doing a really big Awards recognition where we just kind of bring everyone in to the fold and kind of get things back on track with that. So I think that's gonna be the plan. As far as projected costs Barbara, thank you. I did get the budget. So I will look at that and let you all know as I'm still learning.

morgan ward: What I need to make sure that I'm putting into to meet all that stuff happen and then also committee recruitment. So right now I have two committee members and they both. one of them Maddie has mentioned your name is Maddie gonna be on the board.

Maddie Gretzky: Yes, I was about to say I was on the awards Committee in 2021 and...

morgan ward: So on the committee, so if you have the band will we love it?

Maddie Gretzky: 2022. So if you want to meet later to talk about the timeline and...

01:25:00

morgan ward: Okay.

Maddie Gretzky: I have a bunch of stuff from that I can also be on the awards committee and...

morgan ward: Okay, so we can just have a sidebar conversation about that to helping me up to speed it would be so appreciated.

Maddie Gretzky: that's really fine. Yeah.

morgan ward: Yeah, I think that's pretty much all of my updates right now.

Maddie Gretzky: Yeah.

morgan ward: If anyone who's would like to be on a Ward's I think the majority of the recruitment will be for the next year to get all the big slate of awards on...

Maddie Gretzky: We're very excited to have you.

morgan ward: but Let me know.

Maddie Gretzky: and okay and then preols updates and We've on board Sophia is that we pre-old did and working on the newsletter for the aib with Chrissy. And then yeah, we're working on.

Maddie Gretzky: Making sure that the drive is up to date so that I will try and do my thing that I want to do switching over the drive in the next couple of days and I'll find out an email once that's taken care of and then anything that you have on your personal drive or on your personal computer emails or whatever. It would be awesome if that can go into. The drive it doesn't have not every email you exchange needs to be saved into the drive but invoices or planning documents for anything that you have. is really helpful because this is a personal plea but because we are kind of prone to losing information as there is turnover through the natural course of the board as your doing stuff as you're thinking about.

Maddie Gretzky: the work that you're doing if you can just have a running document where you're sort of jotting down like what you're doing and why you're doing it doesn't have to be formal process

documentation, but just sort of Put down your thought process so that when somebody else is looking at it later. There's a little bit of a map to why you were doing what you were doing. That is immensely helpful. So yeah, okay. That's the end of the slides. Yeah.

Courtney Bryant: Hey Maddie question. quarterly newsletter for aueb are you able to speak to that is that for us? Or does that go to the Simmons network? Do you have any idea?

Maddie Gretzky: That I think would be so one of the big struggles that we have is that we as an organization do not have access to contact information for alums. typically, we have random people's contact information, but we do not have a full contact information database Simmons won't utilize share that with us for the reasons and a whole host of data security reasons, which means that when we want to send information out to the larger Alum Community, it typically goes through Chrissy and she's the one who sort of

Maddie Gretzky: Gatekeeping that process not in a negative way, but just she's our funnel. So my understanding is that that would be setting up a quarterly newsletter. That would be scheduled to go out from Chrissy, but it would be our information from the alumni board going out to the broader alumni Community using that list serve that has. Barbara

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Thank you very much, Maddie, and I'm wondering since I texted her. If you would call on. Sophia and to give her impressions of this first meeting before we do resolutions at the end.

Maddie Gretzky: Yeah before that day your hand I see.

Fay B: Yes, I'm Maddie. I know you said that this Simmons advancement office won't share the list with us. Have we ever approached them to ask them if up that they would do the mailing to a one that they have to see if they would join on network also so that we could directly have a list from them or get permission from them for them to give information to the association.

Maddie Gretzky: to

Maddie Gretzky: I think honestly they just have been too short-staffed to take that on and...

Fay B: to do that

Maddie Gretzky: that if they're gonna be sending out information asking people to keep their contact info up to date they would rather spend the energy to make sure they're Records are up to date.

01:30:00

Maddie Gretzky: I think if we can get back into the website, that could be something that we have on our website as we kind of do but a way for people to opt in to hearing from us but I think Simmons in theory has that capacity and in the past has done that but I don't think that they have the bandwidth to do it for us now.

Fay B: And maybe when they're asking Alum to update their information. Maybe they could just have a little checkbox. would you like to also be notified by the Alumni Association and...

Maddie Gretzky: Yeah.

Fay B: that would give missing for them to share that information with us?

Maddie Gretzky: That is the dream. I think as sensible as that sounds from their perspective. They would rather be in charge of that contact info and so kind of don't want to do that even though it probably wouldn't be that much. Of it like a modification to the form. but I love where your head that Fay. I hopefully with the 125th we can get some more sort of synergy with someone on access to this information So Sophia, do you mind sharing your thoughts and before we head into resolutions

Sophia Getz: Yeah, Yeah. This has been a great overview kind of what all the Departments are doing. I haven't quite had the onboarding meeting with preyall yet, but that's gonna be on Monday. And so that hopefully I think I'll get my bearings a little bit more after that.

Maddie Gretzky: Yeah.

Sophia Getz: But yeah, I'm happy to help out with anything you guys need especially I feel like things where you want to connect with the future alumni this class 2024. I feel like I would be able to help out with that. I'm also really excited for the leadership conference. That sounds great. I didn't know that that was part of this. So I'm really excited about that. But yeah, also I did get the login information for the intern email. So in turn at Alum association.com or...

Maddie Gretzky: Yeah.

Sophia Getz: something like that, so if you need to contact me, that's all set up.

Maddie Gretzky: I will email you so we can touch base. and okay and I think we're at the end of the slides. And so Barbara, are you still good to run the resolutions?

Barbara Campbell Harvey: If you can't see me, but know that I am here.

Maddie Gretzky: We can. Okay.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: The first resolution is from operations. It's 12:23. Oh one. And the aueb that's us approves the minutes from the December. 202 I'll get it out 2023 meeting. And those who are in favor? Raise your hand and if anybody objects a text.

Maddie Gretzky: Think everyone's in favor. And Sophia you can't vote. Sorry.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: and I see

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Morgan Europe staining because you probably weren't here in December. So how can you have an opinion on the minutes? And I'll list you as an abstain and then the second resolution is from finance committee, but Faye and I talked and we've decided to withdraw. the three-year budget and discuss that at our next meeting after we have some answer to the Liberty Mutual question because that affects our income. So how can we have a budget if we don't have our income straightened out? so there was only the one resolution about attendance and it has passed.

Maddie Gretzky: Great, okay, and I knew was supposed to close this out, but she's not here. So does anyone have any Thoughts and I was recording the meeting and I will also type up a summary to send to you everyone who wasn't here so that they're up to date.

Elaine McCarthy: I think it was a great meeting Maddie. I think we got a lot. we were able to talk a lot and

01:35:00

Elaine McCarthy: Exchange ideas. We're getting to the point...

Maddie Gretzky: Thank you. and while and...

Elaine McCarthy: where and you've heard that so, thank you.

Maddie Gretzky: for my part, like I said, I'll work on the drive in the next couple of days and let you all know and yeah, I feel like we're really close to a lot of things kind of clicking into place. So hopefully

Maddie Gretzky: in a very soon, we'll get all of those things together and we can be super charged So, we can end a little bit early and enjoy your Saturday everyone.

Courtney Bryant: All right, so on.

Kaitlin Maloney: Have a good one.

Barbara Campbell Harvey: Thank you.

Elaine McCarthy: keep warm

Meeting ended after 01:35:54 🙌