



City of Deltona

2345 Providence Blvd.
Deltona, FL 32725

Minutes

William S. Harvey Deltona Scholarship Advisory Board

Thursday, October 29, 2015

6:00 PM

2nd Floor Conference Room

1. CALL TO ORDER:

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Member Lori Burbank
Member Walter Dawson
Member Sandra Dillard
Member Steve Lightbody
Member Harry Meeks
Member Cristina Raimundo

Absent: 1 - Member Johnny Inthachack

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES & AGENDA:

None

4. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS/REPORTS:

None

5. PUBLIC FORUM:

None

6. OLD BUSINESS:

None

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Selection of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

**Motion by Member Dawson, seconded by Member Burbank to appoint
Cristina Raimundo as the Chairperson.**

For: 6 - Member Burbank, Member Dawson, Member Dillard,
Member Lightbody, Member Meeks and Member Raimundo

Motion by Member Meeks, seconded by Member Raimundo to appoint Member Burbank as Vice Chairperson.

For: 6 - Member Burbank, Member Dawson, Member Dillard, Member Lightbody, Member Meeks and Member Raimundo

B. Review, change and finalize the 2015-2016 Scholarship selection, process and Application Package for distribution.

Ms. Raftery stated to the board that the deadline date for the Scholarship applications would need to be changed from February 20, 2016 which is a Saturday, to February 19, 2016, a Friday. Chairperson Raimundo stated that she too was going to make that suggestion.

Vice Chairperson Burbank stated that Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) schools are as valid for people who do not wish to go to a four (4) year or two (2) year degree college for the trades. She stated she hears all the time that citizens want more trade school graduates, and more trade schools, and she thinks the board should take a look at that. The Veterans that come out of the service after six (6) to ten (10) years need someplace to go and not everyone is suited for academic diploma except for the trade schools, and she thinks the board should consider this and have a different application process for trade schools.

Member Dillard stated that Community colleges with an Associate's(AS) degree are more like trade schools which have subjects like automotive Heating, Ventilating, and Conditioning (HVAC) and it is all offered at the community college level.

Vice Chair Burbank replied, the subjects are also available at the trade school level; for example there's the one down the street, Florida Technical College, which is not very far away.

Member Dillard stated that school is not accredited and Vice Chairperson Burbank replied, it is accredited by ACICS.

Chairperson Raimundo asked if anyone checked on this last time when the topic came up, she remembers the board held a discussion and it was determined that someone would look into it, she does not remember when the board met again if the accreditation was appropriate by a certain board so the board did say it was okay, and that the board would look to approve scholarships to ACICS schools.

Vice Chairperson Burbank replied that was her understanding.

Chairperson Raimundo asked, if the board agrees to go ahead and accept and look at trade schools to be an acceptable part of the application process?

Vice Chairperson Burbank stated that it is a different type of student that applies for an academic scholarship that one who would apply for a trade type scholarship. The applicant may not have the essay skills or the community service; it could be somebody that just got out of the military, so the board needs a little different application process.

Member Lightbody stated he knows the board discussed this last year, and he asked if anyone has anything in writing.

Ms. Raftery stated, she remembers that there were a few things the board wanted to discuss such as Veterans, and adults going back to school, things of that nature. The board was going to discuss and make a determination on what to decide and the board needs to be clear on what it wants.

Chairperson Raimundo stated the application states if a person has already received two (2) scholarships, that person need not apply, what if there is a break in service, would that matter or would it still stand two (2) scholarships?

Ms. Raftery stated she believes that was Commission directed, that only two (2) scholarships person would be awarded regardless of the time frame in between. She stated, staff keeps a track record of who gets the scholarships every single year.

Member Lightbody expressed his concern regarding not all of the board members being present and Ms. Raftery stated that there is a quorum and that staff did not receive any emails or phone calls that anyone was not going to be able to attend the meeting. She does not know if they are just running late or what, but because we have a quorum, we can proceed. When she gets back with the minutes, she will call him.

Ms. Raftery stated there is a big push to not have social security numbers provided to accept S.S. numbers as much as possible. She stated that she will double check to see if the information is still needed to provide a check to the scholarship recipient and if not it will be removed from the application.

Vice chairperson Burbank stated the application accreditation has to be through Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. (SACS), there are five (5) regional accrediting bodies throughout the United States each equivalent, and she does not think it is right to limit the students to a SACS accredited school.

Member Dillard asked, the reason is because the applicants have to attend Florida schools.

Vice Chairperson Burbank stated there are a lot of Florida schools that are not SACS accredited and are based somewhere else, for instance Webster University is based in St. Louis so their North Central says accredited, not SACS accredited. The University of Phoenix are regionally accredited through their main campus in Phoenix, so it is a different region, and so there are schools that operate in Florida that are not domicile in Florida, and that have an equivalent accreditation to SACS. This limits people to certain state schools and certain Florida private schools.

The board read and discussed the minutes from the previous meeting which showed the discussion regarding whether or not to accept ACICS accredited schools as part of the application process.

Chairperson Raimundo stated the reason the subject came up for discussion was to try and open it up to the other accreditation bodies that the board did determine last year that it is under strict guidelines as well.

Vice Chairperson Burbank replied yes, and that ACICS were reasonably the accrediting body for career schools, as opposed to academic type schools.

Chairperson Raimundo asked the board how it felt about moving forward with accepting trade schools or to look further into the matter. She stated the board has spent a lot of time discussing this topic now for a year.

Vice Chairperson Burbank stated, the demographics don't really support an overabundance of scholars nor of trades and it is about half and half. I think there is a large trade school debt.

Member Dillard asked if schools that aren't SACS accredited are more expensive. On average where she teaches the cost is about three hundred dollars a class and she asked; what are the amounts of the scholarships the board awards per year.

Member Lightbody replied the cost is about seven hundred dollars, and the top scholarship awarded is about fifteen hundred dollars and it goes down from that.

Vice chairperson Burbank replied Rollins is SACS accredited and it is extremely expensive.

Member Dillard stated the SACS schools are typically more affordable than the ones that are privately run, that much money will not get the student very far so they could actually get a couple of classes with the money. Seminole State College and Daytona State College all have trades and are SACS accredited.

Member Dillard stated, she is curious, what trades the board thinks are missing out on by not having ACICS accreditation schools?

Vice Chairperson Burbank stated it's just a whole different process; even someone that would apply for a State school that was going into one (1) of those trades, could be at a big disadvantage. The current application includes an essay and community service and there should be a different way perhaps of even ranking ACICS accredited schools.

Member Dillard stated she does not see anybody that gets excluded for those things, or from getting into one of those schools, and she provided some examples. She stated the Scholarship money would go a lot further at a SACS school than at a local school. He stated he has worked at the University of Phoenix, and Florida Technical College and it is quite expensive, one (1) class would never be covered by the City's scholarship.

Chairperson Raimundo asked for a motion to continue with the SACS accreditation schools as is for the application process and maybe at a later date look into further ACICS qualifications and maybe include them at a later date?

Motion by Vice Chairperson Burbank, seconded by Member Dawson, to continue with SACS accreditation schools as is for the application process and maybe at a later date look into further ACICS qualifications and maybe include them at a later date. Motion carries unanimously.

C. Set schedule for future meetings and a timeline for the application process.

The board discussed the schedule of the future meeting and the application timeline and the board concurred to have the next meeting on March 10, 2016, at 6:00 PM, with the goal of presenting the list of scholarships to the Commission on April 4, 2016.

D. Review, change and finalize the Wall of Fame process and assign new nominations to a Board member.

Chairperson Raimundo asked if there were any nominations and Ms. Raftery replied, there were two (2), Peggy Fisher and Tom Burbank. The board discussed the nominees' contributions, Member Dawson stated he would do the research on Tom Burbank, and Member Lightbody would do the research on Peggy Fisher with the

information being due by March 10, 2016.

8. STAFF COMMENTS:

None

9. BOARD/COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS:

None

10. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Motion by Chairperson Raimundo seconded by Member Lightbody, to adjourn the meeting.

For: 6 - Member Burbank, Member Dawson, Member Dillard,
Member Lightbody, Member Meeks and Member Raimundo

Cristina Raimundo, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Keys, Secretary