

Special Athletics Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, January 18, 2024

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Boyd Conference Room

Members Present: Anthony Tolley, Chair; Charlie Cole - absent; Tim McKenzie; Shannon Remines

Guests: Darrin Martin, Interim President; Derrick Price, VP of Intercollegiate Athletics; Brent Benjamin, EVP

Call to Order:

Mr. Tolley called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM in the Boyd Conference Room and turned the meeting over to Mr. Price.

Academic Update – Derrick Price

1. Overall 2.9 GPA – Cumulative: 3.06 – 54 on President's List/89 on Dean's List
2. 33 at risks students
 - a. Tutoring – extra study halls
 - i. Tutoring is an issue – we have none available
 1. Hire High School teachers as tutors?
 - ii. Online tutoring not addressing needs
 - iii. This needs to be addressed in more detail and a resolution to resolve

Housing:

1. Open beds available at the MEC
2. Need to continue to watch numbers

Facilities:

1. Track – needs a practice field
 - a. Resurface Bluefield High School track
 - b. City Park?
 - c. Old quote to be updated
 - d. June or Ned Shott Foundation assistance
2. Student activity area – MEC parking lot – basketball; corn hole, etc.
3. Softball Field renovations
 - a. June Shott Foundation – Field named after her
 - b. Redo old quotes
4. List of projects that Athletics would like to have – with ROI's
 - a. Prioritize them before asking for money

Acro/Tumbling:

1. Proposal to eliminate – replace with Cheerleading beginning Fall of 2024
 - a. See attached

Scholarships:

1. See Attached

Football Coach Search:

1. Ads have been placed
 - a. 50+ resumes received
 - b. 70+ applications submitted
 - c. Different focus: GPA's; Area recruiting; graduation rates; retention
2. Search Community identified:
 - a. Derrick Price, Tim McKenzie, Felicia Oakes, Ryan Bailey, James Quesenberry, Ansel Ponder, Garry Moore
3. Three football coaches remaining: Lawrence Robinson; Chris Jenkins; Zac Edmonds

CIAA Tournament:

1. February 2 – March 3
2. Pricing will be distributed once received
3. We need a presence there – supporting all teams

Bus:

1. New 40 passenger bus to arrive Friday, January 26th.
2. Planning a 'blessing' of the bus event the following week
3. It will be parked in the PE lot facing the Avenue

Adjournment: Chair Tolley made a motion to adjourn the housing committee meeting.
Meeting was adjourned at 2:42 PM

Minutes submitted by: Jeanne Moricle, Board Liaison