**Ross University Veterinary Alumni Association Action Committee**

**August 21, 2023**

**Meeting Minutes**

**A quorum being present, the AAC Meeting was called to order at 8:10 pm**

**Members Present: Nejla, Nisha, Brian, JP, Dianne, Mickey, Mark**

**Members absent: Erik, Kim, Alex**

**Guests preset: None**

**Approval of minutes:** May 19, 2023, Graduation Meeting in Miami

1st Dianne 2nd JP

1. **President’s report**: None

1. **Committee Reports:**

***Events and Chapters Committee:*** Mickey, JP, Dianne Mickey is chair.

Update of alumni events:

-**Everglades excursion:** Date TBD and to be held on a Sunday in Sept./Oct./Nov. The later it is scheduled the busier the season gets for the excursion company.

Tickets will be paid-as-you-go.

Food will be available in the form of platters.

Idexx to sponsor.

- **Swamphead Brewery:** Gainesville Wednesday changed to Oct 5th from the 4th - JP and Dianne

Will be a “Bring your dog” theme as the venue is dog friendly. Dog treats, collapsible water bowls, tennis balls and other swag give aways.

AVG and Purina to sponsor.

Ross/Erik to have invites sent out as we get closer to the date.

-**NY Vet Show:** All plans as stated below in full motion…………….

NYC Vet Show in NYC at Jacob Javits Center November 8-9, 2023. Alumni Event Wednesday 11/8

Ross events team. Katie Heitzig (Kathrine.Heitzig@adtalem.com) and Cheryl Schumacher (cschumacher@adtalem.com).

Mark, Erik, Kristine Lester, Cheryl Shumacher, and Katie Heitzig are working with the NYC VMA to engage Ross’ involvement in the NYC Vet Show Wednesday November 8th at the AKC Museum as a Ross Alumni event from 6 – 9 pm.

The facility rental is approximately $10K. NYC is waiting for the catering company to return their proposal for food and beverage. Sponsors will then be solicited.

The NYVET Show organizers informed Ross that they did not ask and/or have any attendees at previous events specify that they attended Ross, so we have no info on what to expect in the way of attendance.

Ross to send invites to all Alumni in the tri-state area.

**-VMX in Florida:** Mickey recommended booking hotels early because 70% full already, Projected attendance is 30K+

***Leadership Committee:*** Mark, Alex, Kim Alex is chair.

***Everything is on hold until adtalem and Ross Reorg is complete.***

Any update on the platform for the mentorship program being used by Adtalem? Mentor/mentees communications… using e-mails, instant messaging, texts, etc. rather than the platform.

The Leadership committee still to meet up separately and discuss further plans for 2023 once the details are cleared up by Adtalem.

***Engagement and Awards Committee:*** Nejla, Brian, Nisha Nisha is chair.

-Scholarship applications review invitations to go out in late September early October

***Everything else is on hold until adtalem and Ross Reorg is complete.***

-Social media templates still need to be renewed and further discussions/contact with the Ross social media team need to be made, but they/it remain to be not easily contacted or engaged.

-The AAC consensus remains that social media is not being made a priority with the school and that Ross must do a better job because it is one of the most important ways to engage the alumni both with Rossie and Alumni Facebook pages.

4.  **New Business:**

Nejla replied to a Ross e-mail invite with questions in the form of an interview with thoughts about Adtalem and its legacy of the brand.

Seems like most AAC members didn’t see the invite…Spam folders???

Can we get the results from that interview process? Or at least a summary of information collected? How many people were interviewed? Erik or Dean Callanan.

5. **Old business:**

Potential to create Alumni council driven social media site.

All AAC members favor of bylaw changes and *needs to be posted on the Web Site*

*Erik to report/update at next meeting:*

Adtalem Reorg update: HR, Finance, Marketing, and communications all with new leadership, new VP of communications

Colleen’s position? Still won’t be done until VP of communications is in place (~3-4 months)? Rumored internal replacement from Adtalem?

Continuing to work with admin on Ross Alumni Facebook site.

6. **Next Meeting:**

September 25, 2023, 8 pm

Alex to set up the meeting again.

7. **Adjournment:** 8:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Salemi

President standing in as Secretary