THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

June 8, 2017
Knoxville, Tennessee

The Subcommittee on Community and Alumni Relations of the Advancement and Public Affairs Committee of The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees met at 2:00 p.m. EDT on Thursday, June 8, 2017, by videoconference originating from Andy Holt Tower in Knoxville.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Julia Wells called the meeting to order.

II. ROLL CALL

Secretary Catherine S. Mizell called the roll. The following members of the Subcommittee were in attendance by videoconference:

Ms. Julia T. Wells, Chair
Ms. Rhedona Rose
Mr. Charles E. Wharton
Mr. Tommy G. Whittaker

Secretary Mizell announced the presence of a quorum. Administrative staff members were also present.

III. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Chair Wells asked for any corrections to the minutes of the last meeting. Hearing none, Trustee Whittaker made the following motion:

I move that the reading of the minutes of the October 13, 2016 meeting of the Subcommittee on Community and Alumni Relations be omitted and the minutes be approved as presented in the meeting materials, provided that the Secretary be authorized to make any necessary edits to correct spelling errors, grammatical errors, format errors, or other technical errors subsequently identified.
Trustee Rose seconded the motion, a roll-call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

IV. ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Mr. Rickey McCurry, Vice President for Development & Alumni Affairs and Programs, said the charge of this Subcommittee is to gather input from and provide a forum for stakeholders. One major stakeholder group is alumni, currently 370,000-plus. He shared some current forums and methods already being used to seek input from this group and provide a mechanism for their engagement. He welcomes any suggestions and ideas from this Subcommittee for continuing engagement.

Current platforms for input or engagement with the university are:

- Departmental and college level advisory boards, and committees
- Campus level advisory and affinity boards, committees, and various alumni chapters and clubs all across the country
- System level through the UT Alumni Association and its Board of Governors, Alliance of Women Philanthropists, Alumni Legislative Council, area networking boards, and advisory councils
- Surveys, events, and social media
- Solicitation of alumni

On any given year, the University engages between 150,000 – 200,000 alumni not including solicitations.

Chair Wells thanked Mr. McCurry for a very informative report of the many opportunities for input by and engagement with alumni.

V. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Mr. Anthony Haynes, Vice President for Government Relations & Advocacy, presented a Community Relations proposal for the Subcommittee’s consideration (Exhibit 1).

He explained that the proposal is designed to accomplish the intent and purpose of the law that created this Subcommittee, Public Chapter 753 (2016), which was to ensure the University and Board are aware of, engage in, and address local political issues relating to the University. Mr. Haynes worked closely with the legislation’s co-sponsor, Rep. Harry Brooks of Knoxville.

Mr. Haynes said the proposal will meet the legislative intent through a coordinated approach to identifying, studying, and addressing community issues. Highlights of the proposal are listed below:
• Each chancellor would designate a community relations liaison at the campus level who would not only be a liaison to the chancellor but to the Office of Government Relations and Advocacy, which will serve in an advisory capacity to the Subcommittee, the community relations liaisons and campus chancellors on issues that risk entering the legislative arena.

• The Office of Government Relations and Advocacy will work with campus liaisons to coordinate regular opportunities to facilitate dialogue between the UT President, campus chancellors and business and community groups. This will be accomplished through “Listening Sessions” on each campus held at least once annually. Issues identified in these meetings will be reported during meetings of the Subcommittee on Community and Alumni Relations. In addition, Subcommittee meetings will include a forum for the public to raise concerns.

Chair Wells called for a motion. Trustee Whittaker moved that the Subcommittee approve the Community Relations Proposal as presented in the meeting materials. Trustee Rose seconded, a roll-call vote was taken, and the Community Relations Proposal was unanimously approved.

Trustee Whittaker reiterated the importance of listening, noting that what Rep. Brooks had in mind was to encourage the Board to listen to the stakeholders. Listening more leads to learning more, he said. Chair Wells complimented Mr. Haynes and his staff for their efforts in working out the details of this proposal.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to come before the Subcommittee.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business stated, the meeting was adjourned.

[Signature]
Rickey N. McCurry
Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs
President/CEO, UT Foundation, Inc.

Subcommittee on Community and Alumni Relations
Advancement and Public Affairs Committee
Board of Trustees
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