Friends of the Henderson Library Essence Notes

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Friends of the Library Meeting
August 14, 2018

Attending:
Bede Mitchell, Anna Beecher, Relinda Walker, Rosemarie Stallworth Clark, Pam Childs, Lizette Cruz

The purpose of meeting today was to discuss the following:

1. Brainstorm on the best way to reach out to Sponsors.
2. To continue with Farm 2 Table as is or to do something else.

Sponsors: Sponsors will need to be contacted before the end of this year in order to have the best chance of getting as many people on board as possible. Outreach in Statesboro will be limited because the other colleges and campus departments will be doing outreach as well.

Farm 2 Table: Several suggestions were made to change up how Farm 2 Table is done.

1. Change the venue. Anna Beecher suggested asking Debra Chester for use of her farm. The farm has a large shaded area and a pool house that can be worked out of. They can do a drinks, hors d’oeuvres and wine event in this location. Bede noted that it will be necessary to investigate how much it would cost to insure such an event at a private residence.

Another suggestion was to have the event at the new Bulloch County Agricultural Complex which is set to open in the fall.

If the Museum is not going to have the Feed the Mosasaur event this year, then venue they usually use in March, The Nessmith-Lane Conference Center Ballroom, would be available as well.

Another venue that could be looked at is the fellowship hall at 1st Baptist church of Statesboro which seats between 300 and 400 people.

2. Change the event: Relinda Walker suggested changing the event itself. Suggestions mentioned were; a simple event with wine, hors d’oeuvres, and some music. A bar-b-que. A series of small musical events in cooperation with the Department of Music at Georgia Southern. Bede noted
that at one time he attempted to coordinate with the Department of Music but that did not pan out. He could try again.

3. Bede suggested reaching out to the School of Nursing, since the focus of the fundraising is to fund the Bede & Carrie Mitchell Library Endowment for Nursing, which is to provide materials and resources in the library for the students of the nursing program at Georgia Southern. It is possible that they might be able to assist in the event and drum up some more sponsors. Bede will reach out to the Dean of the College of Health Professions.

4. The timing of the event was also discussed. Because of the planting and harvesting season, an event held in March or April would limit how much the Statesboro Main Street Farmer’s Market could participate and contribute. It was suggested that the event could be held May but would be best to be held after graduation at Georgia Southern. It was also stated that if the event was to be held outside as a Farm 2 table event is would definitely need to be held before June because of the hot weather.

The possibility of changing the entire event (or at least bringing a small event) to Savannah, now that Armstrong Campus is part of Georgia Southern University, was also discussed. When Lane Library was part of Armstrong University it was not open to the public, but now that it is part of Georgia Southern University, it is open to the public. Holding the event in Savannah could bring in new sponsors and publicity to the GS Libraries. Sponsorship in Statesboro is tapped out. Savannah however is fresh territory. Also while the nursing program was small at Armstrong University, with it now being Georgia Southern University, the Nursing program is now much larger and this could be of great advantage in Savannah.