

MINUTES OF ATHLETICS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, October 29, 2024/via videoconference

Members Present

Steve Smith, Chairman

Julie Baker	Jeff Roberts	George Chitiyo	John Smith (proxy Bobby Taylor)
Kristine Craven	Hank Duvier	Isaac Legault	Steve Frye (proxy Ann Manginelli)
Madolyn Isringhausen	Mary McCaskey	Reagan Stuke (proxy McKenna Young)	
Mark Wilson, Executive Officer			

Members Absent

Robert Owens	Matt Smith	James Edwards	Christy Killman
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Support Staff Present

Amanda Thatcher

Chairman Steve Smith called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. Introductions were made and the meeting agenda and the minutes of the March 21, 2024 meeting were approved with by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business – none.

New Business:

Missed Class Time Report

- Mark Wilson presented the missed class time report for Spring 2024, with reference to Spring 2023. He notified the committee about the increase in missed class time with the addition of institutions to the Ohio Valley Conference that are further away geographically. The report was adopted unanimously.

NCAA Graduation Success Rate

- The NCAA GSR report was presented to the committee by Mark Wilson, who noted that this information was published and released to the public. Mr. Wilson said that the 88% rate was lower than what would be preferred by the Department of Athletics and the goal is 90%. The committee accepted the report.

Hall of Fame Committee Procedure Changes

- Dr. Jeff Roberts submitted the proposed changes to the Hall of Fame Committee procedures, specifically requesting that the number of inductees increase from three to five to four two six. He stated that with the quality of candidates that are being submitted to the committee, the increase would be warranted. Mark Wilson and Steve Smith agreed with that reasoning, and additional editorial changes were made to the Hall of Fame Committee Procedures. The changes were approved unanimously.

SAAC Update

- Isaac Legault, a member of the Athletics Committee and president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, presented SAAC updated, specifically regarding new initiatives. He discussed the Athletics Newsletter, one-on-one meetings, the Student-Athlete Wellness Advisors, the Student-Athlete Cookout at the beginning of the academic year, the new SAAC social media platform, Mental Health week and other future initiatives.

Budget Update

- Mr. Wilson noted that Athletics was working within a balanced budget, and had been granted the request budget increases for the 2024-25 academic year. He described the uncertainty with the budget pertaining to the House, Hubbard and Carter settlement and how it would affect revenue distributions.

Capital Projects

- Mr. Wilson updated the committee on upcoming capital projects, starting with the completion of the short game facility

for golf. The demolition of the west side of the football stadium is nearly complete; construction should begin sometime in January with a goal of completion by the 2026 football season. The Football Operations Center and “Hack Shack” are still in the fundraising phase, and the track has been planned to move to the Intramural Fields across Willow Avenue. It will be a shared facility with Intramurals with a turf field in the center, but no time frame for construction or completion. There has been approval for renovations to the Academic Wellness Center, first modifying the natatorium into meeting rooms, then turning it into a sports medicine facility for both Athletics and Exercise Science, as EXPW may be adding a Master’s program in Athletic Training. Dr. Roberts asked about how the West Stadium project was being funded, and Mr. Wilson stated it was from a number of areas; debt service, sales revenue from tiered ticketing, four million from the City of Cookeville, two million from Putnam County, institutional funding, and five million from a private corporate partner.

Other Such Matters – None.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded for adjournment. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.