Chairman Eugene Spivey brought the Athletics Committee meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Larry Lyles moved to approve the October 26, 2017, Athletics Committee minutes. Chuck Lewis seconded, and the motion carried.

Chanticleer Athletic Foundation Executive Director Chris Johnson was pleased to announce that Josh Norman has pledged a seven figure gift to the University for the naming rights to the field house. He expressed appreciation to Dr. DeCenzo for his influence in closing the arrangement.

A significant six-figure gift has been made to name the softball stadium in honor of Chris and Heather St. John who are both alums. It will be named the St. John Stadium. This represents the first major naming for a women’s only sport facility on campus.
The delay of the Phase 2 football stadium expansion will result in the loss of new revenue from the new suite and loge boxes this spring. As a stopgap measure, President DeCenzo had approved a temporary suite option is available to provide room for continued growth and better experiences for 90 suite members. Suites have assigned seating, TV’s, restrooms, and all other normal suite amenities.

The Chanticleer Athletic Gala will be held on May 11 at Marriott Grande Dunes. We are further ahead with solicitations than ever before. All major sponsors have been sold and approximately 23 corporate tables have been filled.

As of January 31, the CAF has raised almost $3M in gifts and pledges.

Matt Hogue sports update:
• This weekend will be very busy with basketball, baseball season opener, softball tournament, and tennis.
• The basketball Sun Belt tournament will be held in New Orleans.
• Next weekend is an indoor track Sun Belt tournament in Birmingham.
• Coastal Carolina’s Learfield Directors’ Cup ranking after fall and early winter is 79th. We are the highest ranked Sun Belt school, same as last year. We place ahead of such teams as the University of Oklahoma and Louisiana State University.
• We are currently in a good place to capture the Sun Belt’s Commissioners Cup.

Hogue is proud of the student-athletes’ community service. There is compulsory service for student-athletes of 3000-3500 hours which Associate Athletic Director Cari Rosiek coordinates. About 30-40 athletes participated in Night to Shine, a prom for special needs. The community key coordinator of the project was greatly impressed by the response of our athletes and their demeanor. Chauncey as well as Miss Teal and Bronze also attended. In addition, Martha Hunn received very positive phone calls regarding the participants. Caring for Kindergarteners is a program where our student-athletes participant go into local schools and read to them.

Former Chanticleer football player Nick Clark is the only student-athlete in American that serves on the NCAA committee which makes recommendations on the issue of transferring. Some of most powerful athletic administrators in the country serve on this committee. Clark also served on the Sun Belt Student Athletic Advisory Committee and is halfway finished with a master’s degree.

Fall semester was great academically: 264 athletes had 3.0 GPA or greater; 129 were on the dean’s list (a record number); and, 48 made the President’s List with a perfect 4.0 GPA. These student-athletes are being recognized at the basketball game at halftime tonight.

The next Sun Belt transition report is due June 1 and the transition to the conference should be completed by August 1.

The 2018 football schedule will be announced by March 1.
Through 18 months of competition in the Sun Belt Conference, we have won about 60% winning of all team games. Volleyball has a 35-2 winning record.

Facilities update:
- Football stadium is moving smoothly towards the January 2019 completion date.
- Soccer stadium is on target for 2019 season.
- Tennis court has an issue with surface deterioration. An architect study determined the base used underneath the surface was recycled matter and created a potholing effect. Most likely, it will have to be resurfaced.

Football recruiting looks good. We still have a recruiting weekend and signing day in February.

Bill Biggs asked how many football scholarships there were this year. Hogue responded 25 of the 85 athletes. Fifth year students will not count towards scholarships, that funding comes from other places.

The Supreme Court is reviewing a case regarding sports betting. It is believed that the decision will go in favor of the state of New Jersey. States will make their own decision whether or not they offer sports betting in their state. This probably won’t happen in South Carolina.

As there was no further business, George Mullen made a motion to adjourn and Carlos Johnson seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

V. Chyrel Stalvey

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Recorder