

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of May 7, 2013

The five hundred fifty-eight meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 on the eleventh floor of the Administrative Tower.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Prime at 6:45 p.m.

Present: Geoffrey N. Prime - Chair;
Jorge L. Gardyn, Vice Chair
Mary A. Adams, Anthony W. Cornachio, John A. DeGrace,
Arnold W. Drucker, Edward W. Powers, Faruque Amin, Student Trustee.

Also in attendance: Kenneth Saunders, Maria Conzatti, Chuck Cutolo.

Absent: John P. Donnelly

Chair Prime requested a motion that pursuant to Section 105 of the Open Meetings Law of the State of New York, the Board of Trustees shall enter Executive Session for the following purposes: 1) to discuss matters relating to collective bargaining involving the NCCFT and the AFA; 2) to discuss matters leading to the appointment, promotion, demotion or removal of the President, Acting President, Academic Deans and certain other ungraded administrators; 3) to discuss the Presidential Search; 4) allegations of misconduct; and 5) complaints to the Board of Trustees. Trustee DeGrace moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Adams. Motion carried 8-0.

Chair Prime resumed the open meeting at 9:45 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Geoffrey N. Prime - Chair;
Jorge L. Gardyn, Vice Chair
Mary A. Adams, Anthony W. Cornachio, John A. DeGrace,
Arnold W. Drucker, Edward W. Powers, Faruque Amin, Student Trustee.

Also in attendance: Kenneth Saunders, Maria Conzatti, Donna Haugen, Chuck Cutolo.

Absent: John P. Donnelly

Approval of Minutes

Chair Prime requested a motion to approve the minutes of April 11, 2013. Trustee DeGrace moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Drucker. Motion carried 8-0.

1. Expenditures

Item b) from April 11, 2013 Meeting - Requisition # 61234- Not Called.

a) Requisition #53942 - Not Called.

b) Trustee Powers introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, THAT THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES REQUISITION #61616 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$328,487.00.

Chair Prime requested a motion. Trustee Powers moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Amin. Motion carried 7-0-1. (Cornachio)

c) Trustee Amin introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, THAT THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES REQUISITION #54301 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$432,764.04.

Chair Prime requested a motion. Trustee Amin moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Drucker. Motion carried 7-0-1. (Cornachio)

d) Trustee Gardyn introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, THAT THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES REQUISITION #61644 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,150,000.00.

Chair Prime requested a motion. Trustee Gardyn moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Amin. Motion carried 8-0.

e) Trustee DeGrace introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, THAT THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES REQUISITION #61645 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,350,000.00.

Chair Prime requested a motion. Trustee DeGrace moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Amin. Motion carried 8-0.

2. College Operating Budget 2013 -2014 – Not Called.

3. Tuition and Fee Schedule 2013 – 2014 – Not Called.

4. Trustee Drucker introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, THAT THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACCEPTS THE DONATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FROM SCARLETT DRESS: APPROXIMATELY 200 YARDS OF ASSORTED FABRICS, RANGING FROM KNITS TO ELABORATE SEQUINED CUTS.

Chair Prime requested a motion. Trustee Drucker moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Cornachio. Motion carried 8-0.

5. Trustee Powers introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, THAT THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACCEPTS THE DONATION OF THE GROUP STUDY ROOM FURNITURE FROM THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

Chair Prime requested a motion. Trustee Powers moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Gardyn. Motion carried 8-0.

6. Trustee Gardyn introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, THAT THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACCEPTS THE DONATION OF NINETY-TWO GOLF IRONS FROM THE NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION.

Chair Prime requested a motion. Trustee Gardyn moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Drucker. Motion carried 8-0.

Chair Prime made a motion under Article IV section 3(f) of the Rules of Procedure to allow for the consideration of an item that does not appear on the Calendar. Trustee Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0.

7. Trustee Amin introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, THAT THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACCEPTS THE DONATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FROM GERI KOWALIK: KNIT KING COMPUKNIT VCX E4720696, BROTHER HOME KNITTER MODEL - KX350, BROTHER RIBBING ATTACHMENT MODEL - KR - 850E, BROTHER RIBBING ATTACHMENT MODEL - KR - 260E, BROTHER ELECTRO KNIT MODEL - KH 270, BROTHER G - CARRIAGE CHARIOT – G MODEL - KG – 95, KNIT KING KNITTING MACHINE, COMPUKNIT VCX, JUMBO WOOL WINDER, AS WELL AS NUMEROUS INSTRUCTION MANUALS.

Chair Prime requested a motion. Trustee Amin moved the motion; seconded by Trustee DeGrace. Motion carried 8-0.

Chair Prime made a motion under Article IV section 3(f) of the Rules of Procedure to allow for the consideration of an item that does not appear on the Calendar. Trustee Drucker seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0.

8. Trustee Cornachio introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, THAT THE RENTAL FEE BE WAIVED FOR THE USE OF COLLEGE PARKING LOT WEST 4A, WHICH IS THE PARKING LOT ADJACENT TO THE NASSAU COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CONVOY OF HOPE ON SATURDAY JUNE 8, 2013 AT MITCHEL PARK.

FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT ALL ASSOCIATED PERSONNEL AND MAINTENANCE COSTS WILL BE BORNE BY THE USER.

Chair Prime requested a motion. Trustee Cornachio moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Amin. Motion carried 8-0.

9. Trustee Drucker introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, THAT PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF THE FACULTY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COLLEGE-WIDE PROMOTION AND TENURE COMMITTEE AND THE COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION, THE FACULTY MEMBERS NAMED HEREIN ARE HEREBY PROMOTED TO THE TITLE AND POSITION AS INDICATED HEREIN, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2013.

Promotion to Full Professor

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>
Miriam Afkhami-Ramirez, Ph.D.	Student Personnel Services
Joseph John Caruso	Legal Studies
Marilyn Curry	Administrative Business Technology
M. Debra DeSanto	Administrative Business Technology
Wesley L. Doody	Biology
Kathleen Gallagher	Engineering, Physics and Technology
Helene Guttenberg-Menco	Student Personnel Services
Allen C. Kupfer	English
Gregory J. Lehenbauer	Physical Sciences

Promotion to Associate Professor

Silvia Perez Albanese	Foreign Languages
Sarah Berkovits	Reading and Basic Education
Emily Hegarty	English
Barbara Kennedy	Nursing
Timothy Strode	English
JoAnn Thissen	Physical Sciences

Chair Prime requested a motion. Trustee Drucker moved the motion; seconded by Trustee DeGrace. Motion carried 8-0.

10. Trustee Gardyn introduced the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPOINTS LISA HAHN AS ACTING TREASURER, AT THE CURRENT TREASURER'S SALARY, UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT A NEW TREASURER IS APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (AFTER THE APPROPRIATE

SEARCH PROCESS), AT WHICH TIME LISA HAHN WOULD BE PERMITTED TO RETURN TO HER POSITION AS INTERNAL AUDITOR.

Chair Prime requested a motion. Trustee Gardyn moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Powers. Motion carried 8-0.

Report by the Temporary Committee on the Presidential Search

Trustee Amin spoke about the official email he sent out on behalf of the search committee announcing the three finalists. He then read the following statement:

“The committee sacrificed their time long hours to complete the committee’s mission on time. This search committee was presented with a fine pool of candidates including a larger than normal number of sitting, acting and interim college presidents, The SUNY representative and the executive search firm thought the candidate’s poll was above average. The search firm gave interviews to ten applicants a much higher number than was interviewed by the search firm several years ago. All candidates were asked the same topical questions and then there were sub questions based on the candidate’s paperwork, answers, performance and public data. All candidates were treated alike and with deference and respect. Assessing the candidates, the committee members were mindful of all the criteria set forth in the positions specification found on the website job advertisement. After due consideration, straw votes were taken after interviews on each of the three days. On the last day the committee voted again by secret ballot on all interviewed candidates and they were not bound by straw vote previously taken. The final ballot was overwhelmingly decisive in support of or in lack support of each of the candidates. Three candidates were selected to continue in the search process. The committee is confident that each of the three selected candidates is capable of healing this campus and moving NCC forward to new heights. In addition, to other attributes each candidate has demonstrated modern management practices known on this campus as shared governance and each has demonstrated a respect for all the constituents that comprise the organization from which they come.”

Dr. Saunders reported on the following items:

Congratulated the faculty for the near completion of another successful year, he encouraged the students to remain focused on the completion of their course studies, and thanked the administration and administrative support personnel for another year of outstanding service to the office of the president.

Welcomed all to attend the following upcoming events recognizing the exceptional talents and accomplishments of our students: Fashion Show scheduled for May 9; Presidential Awards scheduled for May 14, 15, and 16; Nursing Pinning Ceremony scheduled for May 16; Allied Health Sciences Ceremony scheduled for May 20; and Commencement scheduled for May 22.

Speakers

Steve Richman, Psychology Department, stated that the audience at the Board meeting doesn’t know what was asked at the interviews of the candidates, and he feels that we should have trust in the mechanism that exists.

Molly Ludmar, SPS, expressed her belief that NCC is on the path of healing and the sense of collegiality has increased significantly, and she attributes this to Dr. Saunders.

Sylvester Wise, ALANA and AFA faculty, spoke of his concerns regarding the search committee's processes, including its decision not to pass Dr. Saunders name to the full board of trustees for its consideration.

Nilda Garcia, NCC Staff, read an excerpt from a letter dated March 1, 2010 to Gov. Paterson from certain members of the NCC Board of Trustees requesting that Trustee Cornachio not be reappointed to the NCC Board of Trustees.

Logan Kenney, SGA President, spoke of her concerns regarding her view that the search committee made it impossible for her to attend the interviews of the finalist and recommends an investigation of the entire search.

Thomas Jackson, SGA President Elect, expressed his concerns with the three candidates selected who he feels are not qualified and that the students of Nassau Community College deserve better.

Michael Mienko, NCC Student Leader expressed his disappointment with the search committee's choices and his concern about Logan Kenny's view that her class schedule was not taken into consideration when scheduling interviews with the candidates.

Karl Couloute, NCC Student, expressed his concerns with what he viewed as Trustee Cornachio's offensive remarks he read in the newspaper relating to ALANA's request to be a voice on the presidential search committee.

Michael Totoro, Math Department, expressed his support for Acting President Saunders and expressed his view that the selection committee did not include any senior faculty. He also questioned the Administrative Judge's academic experience, qualifications and association with the chair of the search committee.

Julius Pearse, a community member, expressed his support for Dr. Saunders and voiced his concerns with the selection process for the presidency of NCC by the search committee.

Thomas King, a community member, expressed his support for Dr. Saunders and made a motion on behalf of the community to make the selection process transparent by publishing the credentials of the finalists in order to compare them to Dr. Saunders credentials.

Joysetta Pearse, a community member, expressed her concerns with the members of the presidential selection committee and asked how the committee will hold itself accountable to Nassau County tax payers on giving them a return on their investment.

Douglas Meyers, Freeport NAACP President, expressed his concerns with what he viewed as the inequities in the composition of the search committee and the management of the selection process. He asked that Trustee Cornachio be removed from any further involvement in the process.

Anissa Moore, ALANA President, read a letter to the Board of Trustees requesting the Chair send a letter to the appointing authority for the immediate removal of Trustee Cornachio from the NCC Board of

Trustees and that a letter of apology to ALANA be read into the record of the next Board of Trustees meeting.

Robert Hodge, Criminal Justice Department and a member of ALANA, handed out the May 7 ALANA Bulletin to the trustees.

Husnain Mushtag, News Editor of the Vignette, expressed his concerns with the qualifications of the three candidates chosen to be the next president at NCC.

Meghan Murphy, Student and Sports Editor of the Vignette, expressed her concerns with the controversial stories on the Presidential Search published in Newsday and asked why she did not see positive articles published in Newsday regarding the accomplishments of the NCC Athletic and Debate teams.

Barbara Brady, LINCC Lecturer, spoke of the dedication the LINCC instructors have for the students of the LINCC program. She mentioned that a number of LINCC students were here to speak of the program and share their experiences, unfortunately, the students had to leave.

Natalia DeCuba Romero, LINCC Lecturer, stated her disappointment that the students from LINCC were not able to share their achievements but they did learn an important lesson during the meeting about speaking out in support of their concerns.

Shoel Cohen, Psychology Department, expressed his concerns with the some of the speeches and resents that the committee is accused of being racist and sexist since a black woman was selected as one of the finalist. He also feels Mr. Cornachio deserves support for bringing down Dr. Astrab.

Frank Frisenda, Vice President NCCFT, expressed his displeasure in light of how he viewed how his colleagues were treated during their speeches. He asked the Board to have the searches for area Deans be canceled until NCC has leadership and vision.

Philip Nicholson, History Department, spoke of McCarthyism which he believes is based on two things 1) intrusion into privacy, thoughts, and ideas; and 2) smear, the manipulation of fears around smear for the purposes of a political agenda, to achieve some kind of power.

Cathy Fagan, English Department, expressed her concerns with the qualifications published in Newsday on the three finalists which lack the depth of experience needed to lead a troubled College.

Wilma Tootle, President, National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Long Island Chapter, Inc., expressed her concerns regarding the composition of a selection committee, her views regarding the disenfranchisement of students, her concerns regarding what she viewed as the offensive remarks by Trustee Cornachio.

Chair Prime announced the next Capital/Finance Committee meeting will take place at a date and time certain in May 2013 with the specific date and time to be announced in accordance with the notice requirements of the Rules of the Board of Trustees specified in Article IV, section 4 of the Rules. The next Board meeting will take place at a date and time certain in May 2013 with the specific date and time to be announced in accordance with the notice requirements of the Rules of the Board of Trustees specified in Article IV, section 4 of the Rules.

Chair Prime requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Amin moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Amin. Motion carried 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at 11:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arnold Drucker', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Arnold Drucker
Secretary Pro Tem