

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of October 10, 2017

The six hundred tenth meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 on the eleventh floor of the Administrative Tower.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gardyn at 6:15 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair
Edward W. Powers, Secretary;
John A. DeGrace, Linda H. Green, Thérèse Russell, Student Trustee.

Absent: Wanda H. Jackson, Donna M. Tuman

Also in attendance: President Keen

Chair Gardyn 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) 1) to discuss matters relating to negotiations involving the Nassau Community College Administrators Association; and 2) of reviewing the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Green. Motion carried 6-0.

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Kathy Weiss, Vice Chair
Edward W. Powers, Secretary;
John A. DeGrace, Linda H. Green, Thérèse Russell, Student Trustee.

Absent: Wanda H. Jackson, Donna M. Tuman

Also in attendance: President Keen

Approval of Minutes

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of September 12, 2017. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Russell. Motion defeated 5-0-1 (Powers). The minutes were not approved, as there were not enough Board members present who attended the September meeting.

1. Trustee Weiss introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADOPTS THE 2018-2021 NCC STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPED BY THE INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE AND SUBSEQUENTLY REVIEWED BY THE NCC CAMPUS COMMUNITY WITH OPEN FORUMS BEING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 15th AND 18th OF 2017.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee DeGrace moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Powers. Motion carried 6-0.

Chair Gardyn made a motion under Article VIII section C(6) of the Rules of Procedure to allow for the consideration of (2) two items that did not appear on the Calendar. Trustee Powers seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

2. Trustee DeGrace introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS FROM PUERTO RICO AND THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS HAVE BEEN DISPLACED AS A CONSEQUENCE OF HURRICANES MARIA AND IRMA; AND

WHEREAS THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) HAS DECLARED PUERTO RICO AND THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS TO BE DISASTER AREAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATIONS 4335, 4336, 4339 AND 4340; AND

WHEREAS THE INFRASTRUCTURES OF THESE ISLAND COMMUNITIES HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY UNDERMINED BY THESE HURRICANES; AND

WHEREAS UNIVERSITIES AND HIGHER EDUCATION ASSOCIATIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY ARE MAKING EFFORTS TO ASSIST STUDENTS DISPLACED BY HURRICANES MARIA AND IRMA IN THE MOST EXPEDITIOUS AND HUMANITARIAN MANNER POSSIBLE; AND

WHEREAS GOVERNOR CUOMO HAS CALLED UPON SUNY TO OFFER RESIDENT TUITION RATE TO STUDENTS DISPLACED BY THESE STORMS; AND

WHEREAS ON OCTOBER 6, 2017 THE SUNY BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZED THE CHANCELLOR OR DESIGNEE TO AMEND THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK GUIDELINES GOVERNING TUITION PURPOSES TO MAKE UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS FROM PUERTO RICO AND THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS WHO HAVE BEEN DISPLACED BY HURRICANES MARIA AND IRMA ELIGIBLE FOR RESIDENT TUITION RATES FOR THE 2017/18 ACADEMIC YEAR AT SUNY STATE-OPERATED INSTITUTIONS; AND

WHEREAS ON OCTOBER 6, 2017, THE SUNY BOARD OF TRUSTEES URGED THAT THE BOARDS OF TRUSTEES OF THE 30 COMMUNITY COLLEGES OPERATING UNDER THE PROGRAM OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK TO TAKE SIMILAR ACTION OR TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO FACILITATE THE ABILITY OF THESE STUDENTS TO CONTINUE THEIR ACADEMIC STUDIES AT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK; AND

WHEREAS THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD WISHES TO EXTEND THE BENEFIT OF NASSAU COUNTY RESIDENT TUITION RATES TO STUDENTS FROM PUERTO RICO AND THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS WHO HAVE BEEN DISPLACED BY HURRICANES MARIA AND IRMA AS A HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE WHICH ACKNOWLEDGES THESE STUDENTS' *DE FACTO* NASSAU COUNTY RESIDENCY STATUS DUE TO THEIR INABILITY TO RETURN HOME; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED THAT NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZES NCC ADMINISTRATION TO AMEND RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR TUITION PURPOSES TO MAKE STUDENTS FROM PUERTO RICO AND THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS WHO HAVE BEEN DISPLACED BY HURRICANES MARIA AND IRMA ELIGIBLE FOR NASSAU COUNTY RESIDENT TUITION RATES FOR 2017 – 2018 ACADEMIC YEAR AT NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Powers. Motion carried 6-0.

- Trustee Green introduced the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE TO EXECUTE A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND MUTUAL GENERAL RELEASE REGARDING THE EMPLOYMENT OF A CERTAIN EMPLOYEE ON BEHALF OF NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE, AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACCEPTS THE IRREVOCABLE LETTER OF RETIREMENT OF THE EMPLOYEE WHO IS THE SUBJECT OF SAID AGREEMENT, SUBJECT TO RECEIPT BY COUNSEL TO THE COLLEGE OF A LETTER OF RETIREMENT.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider this item. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Russell. Motion carried 6-0.

Dr. Keen reported on the following items:

- Safety:** Recent events in the news such as the deadly public shootings periodically remind us of the need for emergency preparedness. We are taking steps to reassure our campus that we are doing our utmost to assure safety. We have a Campus Safety Committee that is required by SUNY, as well as a Campus Services Committee comprised of faculty and administrators as an advisory committee to Vice President Muscarella. We intend to hold a training session for administrators in addition to those such as active shooter drills regularly conducted by Public Safety.
- Administrative Positions:** We have held a number of positions vacant or in acting status during the past few months, and we plan to proceed in initiating searches for some of the most critical positions. We have been developing a set of guidelines for administrative searches and will review these with campus leadership shortly.
- Course-Classroom Scheduling:** The move from the North Annex and North Hall for renovations as we began the Fall term created some logistical problems. With the development of Spring course offerings underway, and registration set to commence within the next few days, we have a number of senior administrators dedicating attention to resolving some of the issues in the hope that the transition will be more smooth than it was in the Fall. Discussions are ongoing with the Academic Senate Executive Committee, the NCCFT and Department Chairs. We do have the space to accommodate all classes, as well as specialized programming, but there will invariably be some error in the process – for instance, when strategically planned enrollment is thwarted by unanticipated retention or attrition.
- Dreamers Conference:** Academic Student Services is holding a “Dreamers” conference on October 20. The early count of participating high schools is ten, collectively sending over 200 students, which represents a great opportunity for recruitment.
- Middle States:** We had an interesting and gratifying visit last week from the Middle States evaluation team. The President’s office is formulating letters of thanks to the many individuals and groups whose efforts have contributed to the successful review. We will receive the draft report for correction of factual errors on October 11. We are committed to return the report within three days. The visiting team will then submit the final report to the Commission for their official action, which is scheduled for November 16. It is necessary to continuously emphasize that the great amount of work that went into the institutional planning process has not been just for the affirmation of our accreditation, but for the purpose of providing blueprints for the future by which we will continue to improve our performance. We still have much work to do.

Business/Organization Collaboration Award. He congratulated Janet Caruso, Assistant VP for the Office of Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning, and Dawn Nolan, Director of the Center for Workforce Development, and their staff.

Speaker

John Joseph Budnick, a 1969 NCC graduate born in what is now the campus radio station and used to be the 1st US Air Force Headquarters Hospital, the largest hospital in Nassau County during WWII, able to accommodate 1000 wounded, inquired whether Peace Officers and all PSOs have bullet-proof vests, remarking that he had been shot at three times as a Park Ranger. He also asked whether we plan to institute a direct line to a 911 operator to expedite emergency response time. He encouraged us, when documenting the history of the College, not to overlook the building at 52 Old Country Road, which is now the west wing of the new County Court House, where the College started operations in 1959 under County Executive A. Holly Patterson. He urged us to support the Cradle of Aviation Museum advocacy to create a Mitchel Field historical district to ensure that the lessons of WWI and WWII are never forgotten. We should in particular coordinate with the Long Island Holocaust Museum to connect what happened here at Mitchel Field 1st US Air Force Headquarters for the likes of the Eastern Frontier Air Defense Command and US Army Anti-Submarine Defense Command in readying the US to combat both the European and Japanese holocausts.

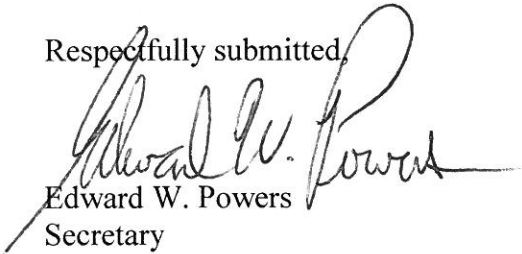
Chair Gardyn wished all a Happy Thanksgiving, noting that the College should be receiving its own “declaration of thanks” in a few days, after which Dr. Keen will reach out to inform stakeholders.

Chair Gardyn announced the next Capital and Finance BOT Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Full Board meeting. The Board will open the public session between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m. and resume the public session approximately 7:30 p.m.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Green moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Tuman. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Edward W. Powers
Secretary