

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Garden City, New York

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MINUTES

Meeting of December 10, 2024

The six hundred eighty-first meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 in the College Center Building Room 252-253. The meeting was called to order by Chair Gardyn at 6:45 p.m. followed by a salute to the flag.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Donna M. Tuman, Vice Chair
John R. Durso, Secretary Pro Tem;
Elliot S. Conway, Lynne D'Agostino, John A. DeGrace,
Kathy Weiss, Jordon Groom, Student Trustee.

Absent: Wanda H. Jackson, George Siberón

Also in attendance: CAO Conzatti

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) to discuss matters relating to negotiations involving the Department Chairs; 2) the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof; and 3) to review 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 Durso moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Conway. Motion carried 8-0.

Chair Gardyn resumed the open meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Present: Jorge L. Gardyn, Chair
Donna M. Tuman, Vice Chair
John R. Durso, Secretary Pro Tem;
Elliot S. Conway, Lynne D'Agostino, John A. DeGrace,
Kathy Weiss, Jordon Groom, Student Trustee.

Absent: Wanda H. Jackson, George Siberón

Also in attendance: CAO Conzatti

1. Approval of Minutes

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to approve the minutes of November 12, 2024. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 8-0.

2. Trustee Durso introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Finance and Capital Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the pending college procurement agreement with Spark451 in the annual amount of \$600,000, as requested by Joseph Jankowski, Acting Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

3. Trustee Durso introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Finance and Capital Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the pending college procurement agreements with Polaris Electrical Construction Corp., Hink Electrical Contractor Inc., JP Daly & Sons Inc., L.E.B. Electric Limited and Northgate Electric Corp.-WBE, in the not to exceed amount of \$3,000,000 for the contract term, as requested by Phillip Cappello, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management.

4. Trustee Gardyn introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Finance and Capital Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the pending college procurement agreements with WEB Construction Corp., Belfor Long Island LLC, Milcon Construction Corp., Preferred Construction Inc. and Saracino Construction Corp. in the not to exceed amount of \$5,000,000 for the contract term, as requested by Phillip Cappello, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management.

5. Trustee DeGrace introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Finance and Capital Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the pending college procurement agreements with Hi-Tech Air Conditioning Service Inc., AKS International Inc., AWL Industries Inc., Best Climate Control Corp., and Botto Mechanical Corp. in the not to exceed amount of \$3,000,000 for the contract term, as requested by Phillip Cappello, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management.

6. Trustee Conway introduced the following resolution:

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees Finance and Capital Committee, the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees hereby approves the pending college procurement agreements with Seaford Ave Corp., Botto Mechanical Corp., and Maccarone Plumbing in the not to exceed amount of \$3,000,000 for the contract term, as requested by Phillip Cappello, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to consider the above mentioned five(5)items. Trustee Weiss moved the motion; seconded by Trustee DeGrace. Motion carried 8-0.

7. Second Reading: Amendment to Policy 7100: Use of College Facilities

Trustee Weiss stated that this is the second reading of Policy 7100. Since last month's extensive discussion there is a minor addition under Priority, "College use of all facilities shall have absolute preemptive priority over use by an External User, *except if the External User has entered into a Long-Term Agreement with the College or the space has already been reserved.*" Trustee Weiss asked if the Board approves moving Policy 7100 forward for adoption?

Dr. Gardyn requested a motion to adopt *Policy 7100: Use of College Facilities* as amended and that the same be subsequently incorporated into the policy manual of the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College. Trustee Durso made the motion; seconded by Trustee Conway. Motion carried 8-0.

Chair Gardyn made a motion under Article VIII section C(6) of the Rules of Procedure to allow for the consideration of an item that did not appear on the Calendar. Trustee Weiss seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0.

8. First Reading & discussion: Policy 7900: Animals on Campus

Trustee Weiss stated as discussed in committee due to a recent occurrence Policy 7900 is to ensure the health and safety of everyone on campus. Trustee Weiss asked if there were any comments, Dr. Conzatti stated that the policy was presented to all constituents involved.

Dr. Conzatti reported on the following items:

- Nominations for the 2025 IBS AWARDS are and WHPC radio has been nominated for 12 National awards!
 - Best Community College Radio Station (going for our 5th win in 7 years!) as well as:
 - Best Celebrity or Artist Interview
 - Best Morning Show
 - Best Foreign Language Program
 - Best Press Release
 - Best Political News
 - Best Use of Sound Effects
 - Best Station (Legal) Id
 - Best Underwriting Spot
 - Best Sports Play by Play – Women’s Basketball
 - Best Sports Talk Show
 - Best Use of Video in The Radio Studio
- Congratulations to Professor Ashley Fifer, recipient of the 2024 Pearson English Language Teacher Award who won Gold in the category Cultivating Lifelong Learners in English. With over 2,000 nominations from around the globe, this is an amazing accomplishment.
- Wished all a Happy and healthy holiday season all!

Speakers

Grant Peterson, Academic Senate Student Chair and Honors student, voiced his dismay with the dismantling of the Honors program and with its current status. He declared that there are only 11 Honors course sections available for Spring registration, how within 2-1/2 years the program has lost 2/3 of its sections – from 31 sections in Fall 2022 to 16 sections in Fall 2023/24 – even as enrollment at the College has increased, and currently there is only one Honors English section available for the Spring 2025 semester. He also lamented that there is no Honors coordinator or advisor to encourage students who are qualified to join the program. He asked the Board to support the Honors program.

Richard Ginsburg, Theatre Professor in the Art Department, again spoke of the accolades of the Theatre program and yet how recently he was told that his department would be deactivated after 61 years. He reiterated his request for the Board to support the students and their dreams and programs.

Edward Boyden, History Professor in the Social & Behavioral Sciences Department, spoke of class scheduling and cancellation policy and its impact on students. He opined that more classes should be offered for those students who work. He inquired whether there is any data collected on NCC students who cannot get classes here and, therefore, enroll at other colleges? He also requested that we make a greater effort to accommodate the needs of our students and asked does the course scheduling policy prevent students from graduating?

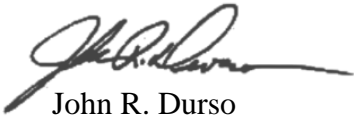
Professor David Stern, NCCFT Vice President, stated that the administration is not following the approved 24/25 budget, per the Strategic Plan, to ensure the proper operation of the College, citing its decisions to fire all newly hired faculty, not to fill the approved 14 full-time faculty lines, and not to replace retirees. He also spoke of the poor HVAC conditions in E Cluster resulting in extreme classroom temperatures often either below 50 degrees or above 100 degrees for days.

Chair Gardyn announced the next Board of Trustees' Committee meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. It is anticipated the Board will open the public session between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m.

Chair Gardyn requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Tuman moved the motion; seconded by Trustee Durso. Motion carried 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Durso", written in a cursive style.

John R. Durso
Secretary Pro Tem