



Middlesex Community College

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
DR. JAMES C. MABRY

mabryj@middlesex.mass.edu
www.middlesex.mass.edu

BOARD OF TRUSTEES *Minutes of the Meeting – Thursday, February 22, 2018*

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Campbell at 7:33 a.m. at the Trustee House, Galvani Room, Bedford, MA.

Roll Call - In Attendance

James J. Campbell
Steven C. Iem
Dr. Linda Banks-Santilli
Dr. Cheryl Howard

Bopha Malone
Annie O'Connor
Sierra DeWalt
Laurie A. Elliott

Alec A. Belanger
Kathleen A. Plath

Chairman Campbell introduced guest Matt Noyes, Director of Trustee and Government Relations with the Department of Higher Education. Mr. Noyes thanked the Board for their time and encouraged all Trustees to attend the annual Trustee Conference being held March 1, 2018. He explained Trustees would benefit by meeting other Trustees from across the state and also from the great breakout sessions available.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR JANUARY 25, 2018

With a motion by Trustee Howard, seconded by Trustee O'Connor the minutes of the meeting held on January 25, 2018 were presented for approval. All voted in favor of approving the minutes of January 25, 2018.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Personnel (Board Action Required):

- 1) P-1344-2018 Approve the appointments of Professional Staff members in accordance with the MCCC/MTA Agreement.
- 2) P-1345-2018 Approve the appointment of Professional Staff members in accordance with the AFSCME-I Coalition.
- 3) P-1346-2018 Resolve that the Board of Trustees accept the resignation of the following Professional Staff members in accordance with the Non-Unit Personnel Policies Handbook.

Motion made by Trustee Plath, seconded by Trustee O'Connor to approve Personnel Action P-1344-2018 through P-1346-2018. The motion passed unanimously.

III. NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

A. Chairman's Remarks:

- 1) Chairman Campbell provided the Trustees with monthly updates. He attended the Mabry Soup Fest for Scholars Fundraiser. He reported that it was an enlightening event with inspirational remarks by the scholarship recipient. He thanked the sponsors and everyone who donated food.
- 2) Chairman Campbell reported changes to the Trustee Sub-committee structure. The Student Success and Diversity Committees will be combined. Trustee Malone will continue to serve as Chair of the committee, and all committee members will remain the same. He would also like to initiate a Development Committee with Trustee Malone serving as Chair and Trustees Plath and Howard serving as members. This committee will be dedicated to fundraising and marketing efforts for the College. The Chairman would like to set a date for the first meeting soon.
- 3) Trustee Sierra DeWalt updated the Board on SUGA initiatives. She reported that an Open Educational Resources Committee has been formed. SUGA will host a gun control discussion in addition to a DACA march scheduled for next week. All Trustees were encouraged to attend. Trustees sought clarification for safety measures on campus. Executive Director of Public Affairs, Patrick Cook discussed the active shooter trainings offered on and off campus. He reported that trainings are scheduled monthly and available to all faculty, staff, students and Trustees. President Mabry explained the structure of the Public Safety department.

B. President's Remarks:

- 1) President Mabry attended the Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. where President Mabry and Trustee Cronin received policy briefings on education legislation. They met with Senator Elizabeth Warren. They discussed the reauthorization process for the Higher Education Act. The Act includes a risk sharing element that would be harmful to low income students and community colleges. President Mabry reported meeting with other member of the Massachusetts Delegation such as Senator Markey, Senator Kennedy III, and Congresswoman Nikki Tsongas who will be retiring at the end of the year. Congresswoman Nikki Tsongas is a big supporter of the Boston and Maine Academic Arts Center, and the College is working on a naming and fundraising campaign for this property.
- 2) President Mabry reported how the College is reaching out to institutional partners in the area. He and the senior leadership team met with Shawsheen Technical School to discuss a number of ways to work together. There were also exploratory discussions with Northern Essex Community College and North Shore Community College to share best practices. UTEC has been a close partner to the College. The College has been using the UTEC kitchen facilities for the hospitality program. He stated that the College is developing a dual enrollment program with UTEC. President Mabry discussed the rapidly developing relationship with UMASS Lowell. He shared the various programs developed between the two colleges. The Connections program is an example of working with students that get their start at Middlesex and successfully transfer to UMASS Lowell. Another program is the RPP program where qualified students accepted to UMASS are referred to Middlesex for the first few semesters. President Mabry reported that students are encouraged to join the Honors Program and nearly 50% of students remain at Middlesex for two semesters and some stay the full two years. The program will provide an opportunity to bring students to the College from outside the area. The College is working on details to obtain space at the UMass Inn and Conference

III. NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

B. President's Remarks Continued:

- Center in order to provide housing for students in the program. President Mabry reported that marketing efforts will be combined to communicate the program. In addition, the IT departments work together to provide internet services and the VDI interface. More meetings will be held in the future to explore joint alumni events. All Trustee questions were addressed.
- 3) President Mabry met with Department Chairs and Coordinators to get feedback on how they can be better supported. Information on the New Student Orientation Pilot program will be shared at the FSA meeting. The pilot program showed a positive response, but the College is looking to capture more students. President Mabry will attend a MCCC union meeting on March 10 to address union concerns.
 - 4) President Mabry gave a brief overview of recent activities. He attended the Middlesex 3 Coalition event at Instrumentation Laboratories in Bedford. The company is working with the College to create an annual student scholarship. President Mabry attended President's Council Meetings. He viewed a presentation on Gateway Cities and early college programs from Mass Inc. He reported that there has been discussion on more collaboration between the community colleges and the UMass system and state universities. The community college system is also working collaboratively to advocate for the community colleges across the state.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Administration & Finance:

- 1) CFO Frank Nocella gave an overview of the FY'19 Budget Process to the Trustees. The goal is to link the strategic planning initiatives with the operating budget on a divisional basis. This would allow for effective allocation of resources to support student success. Meetings will be held with department cost managers within the next few weeks to discuss budgets. President Mabry encouraged Trustees to refer to the presentation for more in-depth information. Trustees asked for clarification on the ultimate goal for the budget and all concerns were addressed.

B. Institutional Planning Committee:

- 1) President Mabry thanked Committee Chair Trustee O'Connor and Committee members, Trustee Plath, Belanger and Banks-Santilli. He gave a brief overview of the recent activities to the Board. The committee was presented with a range of community partnerships and received recommendations for future partnerships. The committee reviewed relevant areas of the strategic plan. President Mabry briefly discussed community partnerships such as dual enrollment, and competency based education. There are numerous community partnerships with the College and institutions in the area. Trustee Banks-Santilli suggested an advisory committee for program development. Phil Sisson explained the College has strong Advisory Boards at the College with many community partners represented on these boards. President Mabry reported that a recent program review audit to see where there would be suggestions to realign programs to the current demands. The consultants validated the quality and variety of the College's academic programs. President Mabry and Provost Sisson also explained the efforts of the DHE to keep programs unique to individual institutions without duplicating programs at other regional institutions.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Trustee O'Connor made a motion to remove past MCC President, Evan Dobelle's name from the Federal Building Library and rename the library in honor of Congresswoman Niki Tsongas. The motion was seconded by Trustee Elliott. Trustee O'Connor cited improper financial dealings at Westfield State University during Mr. Dobelle's presidency. Chairman Campbell stated he did not believe in rewriting history and does not agree with the motion. He gave a brief overview of Evan Dobelle's career. In trying to get a better understanding of the history at MCC, President Mabry spoke with current Foundation Chairman, James Henderson, who was sitting Chairman of the Board of Trustees during Evan Dobelle's tenure at MCC. President Mabry, with Chairman Henderson's approval, relayed the views of Chairman James Henderson on this subject. Chairman Henderson opposes the removal, stating that during President Dobelle's tenure he was instrumental in securing funding for both the Bedford campus and the Lowell Campus. He did many important things during his short time at MCC, and although Mr. Henderson does not condone the behavior at Westfield State University, there were no issues during his time at MCC. There was discussion among the Trustees about the perception of Evan Dobelle's name in the community. Trustee Elliot asked to amend the motion to just remove Evan Dobelle's name from the Library without adding Congresswoman Tsongas's name. Trustee O'Connor agreed and amended her motion to remove Evan Dobelle's name for the Federal Building Library, the motion was seconded by Trustee Elliott. The discussion continued. Trustees also shared concerns of the negative publicity regarding this issue. Trustees felt that more information was needed about the work of Evan Dobelle while President at MCC along with creating a communication plan for the College's response before coming to a decision. Trustee Plath also asked if a write up of the information from Chairman Henderson could be made available. Trustee Plath made a substitute motion to table the current motion and refer the discussion to a newly formed ad hoc subcommittee to research the issue as well discuss a communications plan for any decision made regarding this issue. The Committee will bring back their findings to the full Board at the April 26, 2018 meeting. A Committee was formed comprising of Trustees Elliott and Malone as Co-Chairs, Trustee Howard. They will schedule a meeting as soon as possible.

A substitute motion was made by Trustee Plath to table the current motion of removing President Evan Dobelle's name from the Federal Building Library and refer the issue to committee. The committee will research information on the current issue as well as research a communication plan for when a decision has been made. The committee will bring back recommendations to the full Board at the April 26, 2018 meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Howard. The Chairman asked for all in favor - Trustee O'Connor voting against the motion. The motion passed with a majority vote.

- B. College Awards & Grants: A detailed list of all grants received and pending between January 25, 2018, and February 22, 2018 was provided to the Trustees.
- C. The following key events was provided to the Trustees:
- 1) March 1, 2018, DHE Statewide Trustees Conference, 11:00am – 3:00pm, Doubletree Hotel in Westborough. (New Trustee Orientation and Training 9:30am – 10:50am.)
 - 2) March 6, 2018, Middlesex Community College Foundation Scholarship Awards, 3:30pm – 5:30pm, Bedford Campus Center

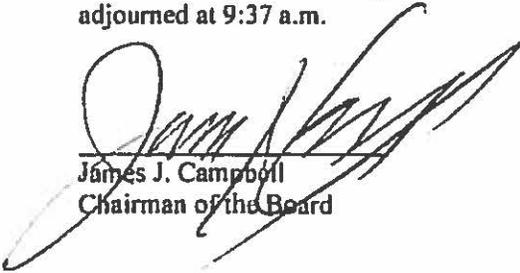
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C. The following key events was provided to the Trustees continued:

- 3) April 13, 2018, PTK Induction Ceremony, 5:00pm – 7:00pm, Bedford Café East
- 4) April 26, 2018, Board of Trustees Meeting, 7:30am – 9:30am, Lowell Courtroom
- 5) May 2, 2018, MCC Sports Recognition Night, 5:30 pm, Bedford Campus Center
- 6) May 4, 2018, 29 Who Shine Event, 2:00 pm, State House Great Hall
- 7) May 22, 2018, Nurses Pinning Ceremony, 4:00 pm, Lowell Memorial Auditorium
- 8) May 22, 2018, Evening of Excellence, 6:30 pm, Lowell Memorial Auditorium
- 9) May 24, 2018, Trustee Meeting, 8:00 am, Cowan Center Room 302
- 10) May 24, 2018, Commencement Ceremonies, 10:00 am, Lowell Memorial Auditorium, followed by a reception in the Cowan Center

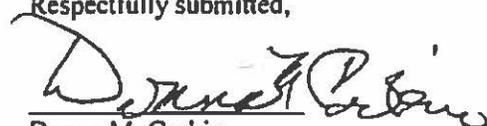
D. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018, 7:30 am, Federal Building, Courtroom, Lowell

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Trustee O'Connor, seconded by Trustee Belanger. The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.



James J. Campbell
Chairman of the Board

Respectfully submitted,



Donna M. Corbin
Secretary to the Board