

REVISED

MINUTES REGULAR BOARD MEETING of McHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of McHenry County College was held on Thursday, February 27, 2014, in the Board Room, Room A217, in Building A on the Campus. Chair Parrish called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. When Secretary Jenner called the roll, the following were present:

Ms. Diversiev
Mr. Jenner
Ms. Kissler
Ms. Liddell
Ms. Walsh
Mr. Parrish

Mr. Wilbeck was absent. Ms. Miller was absent at roll call and arrived at 6:37 p.m. Dr. Smith was also present. Attorney Nanci Rogers was present as legal counsel.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Parrish led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Student Trustee Diversiev read the Mission Statement.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, January 23, 2014, were accepted as revised. Ms. Liddell moved to accept; Ms. Walsh seconded. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor. The motion carried.

OPEN FOR RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Katrine Poe, Instructor of English, questioned the motivation of the students who spoke in favor of the tuition increase.

Student Ms. Shelby Trznadel addressed the Board in support of automotive technology instructor Mr. Clay Brown, who recently resigned. A student who did not give his name also spoke in support of Mr. Brown.

Mr. Andy McComb, Student Body President, addressed the Board in support of a tuition increase and noted he was doing so of his own will.

Mr. Justin Peters, College Activities Board President, spoke in support of the tuition increase, asking that the Board take tonight's comments into consideration.

The Advertising Committee spoke in support of the tuition increase, noting that becoming involved at MCC provided real life experience that cannot be taught in the classroom.

An unidentified student spoke about his positive experiences at McHenry County College, which helped him gain leadership, delegation, and communication skills.

Student Mr. Sam Zagura spoke about his positive experiences with the Student Life department as a student worker and CAPC student representative, noting these experiences would not be possible without Student Life.

Student Ms. Ashley Hamish spoke about her positive experiences with the services of Student Life, noting she has gained leadership skills through Student Senate.

Student Ms. Sulwana Hussein spoke in support of the tuition increase, stating that clubs and activities help students to become more confident, gain leadership skills, and become better students.

The Student Affairs Committee spoke in support of the tuition increase. They formed a study group in the Sage Learning Center and have turned failing grades into 4.0 GPAs.

Student Mr. Harsh Agarwal spoke about his positive experiences with the Student Life department and praised the Special Needs department, which does a remarkable job accommodating students' needs.

Student Mr. Scott Robb spoke about his positive experiences which include improving energy efficiency in the Sage Center, the Special Needs department, the library and computer labs.

Student Mr. José Guimaray spoke about his positive involvement in Student Senate and stated that the Athletics program is important as it helps MCC form a sense of community.

Student Ms. Sam Beringer spoke in support of the tuition increase; she previously attended a school where tuition was \$40,000 and noted MCC is just as good as that school and in some ways, better.

Student Ms. Evelyn Guarneros spoke in support of the tuition increase; she feels that raising tuition will help students on campus and after graduation by providing networking opportunities.

Student Mr. Erick Marchessault spoke in support of the tuition increase, noting that clubs on campus have created a safe environment where students can connect with others who share their point of view.

Student Ms. Amanda Brickwood supported the tuition increase to keep MCC running efficiently and not neglecting academic and non-academic offerings. By improving current services, more students will be reached, improving the quality of education and providing a sense of community.

Student Mr. Jake Kvidera supported a tuition increase which will allow the College to be proactive and prepare for problems before they happen.

Students Mr. Andy McComb and Ms. Noemi Venegas spoke in support of the tuition increase; they commented that leadership skills are a top priority and noted there is much to be gained outside of the classroom by taking advantage of student services. They believe involved students make a difference and noted that they were here to speak of their own will.

Ms. Lindsay Carson, Instructor of Modern Languages, read a letter from Jacqueline Pasco, who graduated from MCC in 2013 and is pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education at Northern Illinois University.

Ms. Teresa Bossert, Instructor of Psychology, stated that the most important learning at MCC is in the Children's Learning Center, as from the ages of zero to five, the brain responds as it never will again. She noted that graduates of the Early Childhood Education program at MCC find employment after graduation; she noted that a lab site (the Children's Learning Center) is needed to learn and practice skills. She praised Ms. Linder's work as department chair, faculty member and Director of the Center and noted this workload is unfair to Ms. Linder, and bad for students to have all courses taught by adjunct faculty.

Mr. Mark Eckel, Instructor of Sociology, spoke about the problems which resulted from the decision not to replace a faculty position in the Early Childhood Education department. He noted that to use the funds from that position in a thriving program to hire two faculty for a program that has not yet enrolled its first student seems fiscally unwise.

Ms. Elaine Whalen, Co-President of the Faculty Association and Instructor of Health and Human

Performance, stated that graduates of the Early Childhood Education program are highly regarded and sought after as employees and noted it is impossible for one faculty member to serve as department chair and faculty and maintain the high level of quality.

Mr. Scott Janis spoke in support of the need to provide a lounge for students to interact.

Mr. Erik Paulson spoke regarding the need for space where students can meet other students.

Mr. Matthew Quinney spoke about the former student space, the Belly of the Whale, and shared how students moved from there to a space that has been transformed into the new Black Box Theater. He asked that a new space be set aside for students to relax and learn from their peers.

Mr. Alex Burns stated that students need space where they can help each other with assignments; there is currently no permanent space to use in this way.

Ms. Chantel Jenrette stated it would be a great loss to students if there were no space on campus for students to make connections and grow as people.

Mr. Daniel Peterson stated he has seen student space dwindle over the years until there is nothing left. He stated students need space to congregate, share ideas, and think critically.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Parrish stated that he and Attorney Rogers learned through research that amending a motion on the floor can be defined by the Chairman. Mr. Parrish stated that as Chair, he would allow amendments to motions still on the floor.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Smith stated that kudos are in order for Trustee Molly Walsh, who appeared in the "Everyday Heroes" section of the *Northwest Herald*. Dr. Smith also passed around a note from the principal at Johnsburg High School, who complimented MCC on being named one of the top 150 community colleges in the country. Dr. Smith reminded all that MCC is hosting the 2014 Skyway Collegiate Conference Juried Art Competition on March 8 and noted that the Trustees are invited to the March 9 grand opening and ribbon cutting of the new Black Box Theatre. Dr. Smith noted that MCC partners with the Area Planning Council for Adult Education the Workforce Investment Board, and the Illinois Migrant Council on GED and ESL classes. This

partnership has helped over 1,000 of the 50,000 eligible students in the county. The College wishes it could do more, but budget and space limitations prevent doing so.

Dr. Smith encouraged Trustees to attend the 2014 Association of Community College Trustees Leadership Congress, to be held in Chicago in October.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Ted Hazelgrove, Instructor of English, gave a presentation entitled, “Harmony and History in Homer’s *Iliad*: Discerning Legend from History in the Trojan War.” Mr. Hazelgrove traveled to Turkey for a month through the Niagara Foundation, whose goal is to bring educators into Turkey hoping they integrate Turkish history and culture into their curriculum.

The presentation can be viewed at: http://www.mchenry.edu/board/13_14/presentations/troypowerpoint.pdf.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Faculty Report

Ms. Anne Humphrey presented the faculty report. She turned the floor over to Ms. Lisha Linder, who stated that it is not likely the vacant faculty position in Early Childhood Education will be refilled. She stated that she does not plan to continue as Interim Director of the Children’s Learning Center after this semester and noted it is difficult for one person to be responsible for all that happens in this department. Ms. Humphrey noted the accomplishments of many faculty members and spoke about the Skyway Juried Art Competition.

B. Adjunct Faculty Report

Mr. Peter Ponzio spoke about a National Public Radio program about the plight of adjunct instructors and a *New York Times* editorial on the same subject. He noted that in 1970, adjunct faculty represented 20% of higher education faculty and today adjunct represents 50% of faculty.

C. Staff Council Report

Ms. Trimble was unable to attend tonight’s meeting; there was no report.

D. Student Trustee Report

Ms. Diversiev spoke on behalf of the students who support a tuition increase and then presented her report.

Ms. Kisser thanked Ms. Diversiev for bringing the Board information on what the students have to say.

E. Comments from the Board

Mr. Jenner thanked Dr. Smith for encouraging the use of microphones at Board meetings. He asked for more information about what is happening with the Early Childhood Education program. Ms. Liddell thanked all who addressed the Board tonight. Mr. Parrish spoke positively about the presentation.

E. Attorney Report

There was no report.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Liddell moved to accept the Consent Agenda, and Ms. Kissler seconded the motion. During discussion, Mr. Jenner commented on the requests to purchase, noting that of 10 items, 5 are exempt and on 2 items, requests for proposals or bids were conducted. Only one item had one bid.

Ms. Liddell questioned the low price of the successful bid for engineering and design services; Mr. Tenuta replied that three responses were received, with a very wide spectrum on price. All firms are double checked to make sure they are qualified. Dr. Smith added that the firm selected has done work for the College in the past. The roll was called and all were in favor; the motion carried.

For Approval

- A. Financial Statements
 - 1. Executive Summary, Board Report #14-9
 - 2. Treasurer's Report, Board Report #14-10
 - 3. Ratification for Accounts Payable Check Register, Board Report #14-11
- B. Requests to Purchase/Renew/Lease
 - 1. Air Compressor Purification System, Board Report #14-12
 - 2. Annual Maintenance for Astra Scheduler Software, Board Report #14-13
 - 3. Bookstore Software Maintenance and Support Agreement, 2014 Board Report #14-14
 - 4. Classroom and Office Furniture, Board Report #14-15
 - 5. Commvault Backup Annual Support and Maintenance Agreement, Board Report #14-16
 - 6. Emergency Mass Notification System, Board Report #14-17
 - 7. Engineering and Design Services for the Extension of Fire Sprinkler System to Building A Gymnasium and Fitness Areas, Board Report #14-18
 - 8. Engineering and Design Services for the Replacement of Two (2) HVAC Chillers in Building B, Board Report #14-19
 - 9. Renovate Information Technology Offices, Board Report #14-20
 - 10. SAN Disk Backup Hardware, Board Report #14-21
- C. 2014 ICCTA Outstanding Full-time Faculty Member Award, Board Report #14-22
- D. Destruction of Closed Session Recordings, Board Report #14-23
- E. Granting of Easement Radio Station WZSR, Board Report #14-24
- F. Personnel

1. Appointment of Replacement Executive Director of Workforce, Community & Business Programs, Board Report #14-25
2. Request for Faculty Sponsored Leave in 2014-2015, Board Report #14-26
3. Salary Adjustment/Advanced Placement, Board Report #14-27

ACTION ON ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

No action was needed.

TUITION INCREASE, Board Report #14-7, Postponed

Ms. Liddell moved to approve Tuition Increase, Board Report #14-7, Postponed, and Ms. Miller seconded the motion. During discussion, Dr. Smith reiterated that the recommendation is to add \$3.00 per credit hour, bringing tuition cost to \$105.00 for fiscal year 2015, starting with summer classes. Ms. Walsh stated that she struggled with the idea of an increase; like Ms. Miller, she rarely wants to vote for an increase. Ms. Walsh stated that with the public comments made today, finances should not be a reason not to refill a faculty position. She hopes that the College would keep strong programs going and stated she will vote in favor of the tuition increase. Mr. Jenner questioned the change from \$365,000 to \$807,000 in the Board Report; Mr. Tenuta explained that when copying the formula from Excel into Word, it was erased. Mr. Jenner asked where the 3% projected increase in credit hours came from, and Mr. Tenuta replied that he used the base and a 3% increase, in line with historical information. Mr. Jenner stated the Board Report says tuition increase is based on the need to address operating expenses due in part to contractual obligations, salary and benefits. Mr. Jenner stated that a lot of public comments tonight were made by those worried that Athletics and Student Services would be cut; he missed a discussion on programs perhaps being cut. Mr. Tenuta stated he understood the concerns; tuition will help support operating costs. He noted there is currently no student activity fee providing operating funds to support Student Life. He stated that if the College cannot meet its bills, services that don't meet higher education goals will need to be shed, and many times that means auxiliary services. Discussion followed on previous discussion on possible cuts; departments were not identified in the previous discussion. Ms. Kissler recalls previous discussion, and added that the reasons the Board is hearing from students on tuition increase is that students want to have a quality of student life that goes beyond what happens in the classroom. When the Board listens and acts on this, they carry forward a

commitment to be true to what they are responding to. Ms. Walsh stated she hoped the Board would also be making a commitment that faculty are on the front line, our student success depends on them, and they should be given the tools they need to be successful. Mr. Parrish stated that after hearing public comment tonight, he has changed his position on a tuition increase. Mr. Jenner stated that the affordability of higher education has become a huge problem in this country; he stated that MCC offers something that's affordable and that having the 30th lowest tuition among 39 community colleges in the state is something to brag about. He stated that when he served on the District 26 Board, they were broke and on the brink. He noted that McHenry County College is nothing like that.

The roll was called. Mr. Jenner voted against; Ms. Kisser, Ms. Liddell, Ms. Miller, Ms. Walsh, Mr. Parrish and Ms. Diversiev voted in favor; the motion carried.

INSTITUTION OF A CREDIT HOUR INFRASTRUCTURE FEE, Board Report #14-8, Postponed

Ms. Kisser moved to approve Institution of a Credit Hour Infrastructure Fee, Board Report #14-8, Postponed, and Ms. Liddell seconded the motion. During discussion, Mr. Parrish stated he was disinclined to vote for this fee, and Mr. Jenner reiterated his comments about affordability. Ms. Walsh stated she felt it did not make sense to go for this fee and stated that money from the operating fund should be transferred to deal with infrastructure. Ms. Kisser favored the fee because in the long term, it alleviates pressure for essential projects that must be done. Ms. Liddell favored the fee so the College can figure out how to expand and restructure facilities for students. Ms. Miller stated that many community colleges in Illinois use this type of fee to maintain buildings and cited the student comments about space needed. The roll was called; Ms. Kisser, Ms. Liddell, Ms. Miller and Ms. Diversiev voted in favor; Ms. Walsh, Mr. Parrish and Mr. Jenner voted against. As the Student Trustee's vote is advisory, the vote resulted in a tie and the motion failed.

APPROVAL OF AUDITING FIRM, Board Report #14-28

Ms. Miller moved to approve Board Report #14-28, Approval of Auditing Firm, and Ms. Walsh seconded the motion. During discussion, Ms. Miller stated she was happy with the selection process. Mr. Jenner stated his concern that Sikich has already been the College's auditor for five years; he thinks it is not good business practice to continue with Sikich and would like the College to switch firms after five years. Ms. Miller

replied that as an auditor herself, continuing with a good firm produces a better audit, as the staff becomes more knowledgeable about the inner workings of an organization. Ms. Rogers noted that administration is permitted to negotiate a final price with the firm selected. The roll was called; Ms. Liddell, Ms. Miller, Ms. Walsh, Mr. Parrish, Ms. Diversiev and Ms. Kisser voted in favor; Mr. Jenner voted against. The motion carried.

A break was taken at 9:10 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 9:16 p.m.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Evaluation and Policies Committee

Ms. Kisser reported that the February 17, 2014 meeting was cancelled as the weather prevented a quorum from attending. She spoke about discussion of redesigning the Board Self-Evaluation form and received feedback on topics to include in the form.

B. Committee of the Whole

Ms. Liddell reported on the February 18, 2014 meeting; the majority of the meeting was spent conducting auditing firm interviews. The Health and Sciences Education Building feasibility study was also discussed, and the majority of Trustees were in agreement that the College needs additional space on campus. Tuition and fees were also discussed. Ms. Liddell stated that the Committee of the Whole meeting provides an opportunity for the Trustees to learn more about items they will be voting on.

ICCTA REPORT

Ms. Liddell reported that the recent ICCTA meeting focused on Trustee leadership training and pension reform in Illinois.

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT REPORT

Ms. Liddell reported that the recent Association of Community College Trustees National Legislative Summit featured sessions on pension, Pell Grants and funding, and offered meetings with legislative representatives. She noted that ICCTA has identified their top priorities, which she will provide to the Board.

FRIENDS OF MCC FOUNDATION REPORT

Ms. Walsh reported that scholarships are available on the website March 3 through 5; Ms. Brown provided an update on interviews scheduled in the search for an Executive Director for the Foundation. Ms. Walsh noted also that the next Education to Empowerment event will be held March 13.

FOR INFORMATION

- A. Resignations
- B. Articulation Agreement with Chamberlain College of Nursing
- C. Office of Marketing and Public Relations Update
- D. Office of Resource Development Update
- E. Office of Sustainability Center Update

There was no discussion.

SUMMARY COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Jenner stated that the federal government has no business in education. Ms. Liddell commented that there was a good meeting tonight. Ms. Walsh stated that she worked the booth at the Huntley Expo this past weekend and encouraged Trustees to attend the local expos, which provide an opportunity to meet people in the community. She noted she did not hear anything negative about McHenry County College at the Expo. Ms. Kissler asked that Trustees be notified of the Expo schedule so that they can attend. Ms. Liddell spoke about the upcoming Senior Fair, and asked that more use be made of the culinary department. Ms. Liddell stated she has received comments from people who have looked at their tax bills and found what amount goes toward District 528. When they recognized what percentage of their taxes goes to the College, they were very surprised and thought that the tax bill would have been much higher. Ms. Liddell spoke with local companies who would like to see a certificate in Customer Service offered.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Future agenda items include: Mr. Jenner requested a report on the Early Childhood Education department; Ms. Diversie asked for more information on student space. Ms. Liddell asked that the Foundation President talk to the Board. She asked for a report on how MCC students stand on loan repayment. Ms. Kissler anticipates finishing up Section 2 and bringing it to the Board in March. She does not anticipate a new Board self-evaluation form to be ready next month.

CLOSED SESSION

At 9:48 p.m., Ms. Walsh moved to go into Closed Session to discuss matters covered under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 120/2(c), Exception #1, *The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity*, 120/2(c) Exception #2, *Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees*, and Exception #21, *Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06*. Ms. Kissler seconded the motion. The roll was called and all were in favor; the motion carried. Closed Session began at 9:52 p.m.

At 10:30 p.m., Ms. Liddell moved to come out of Closed Session and Ms. Kissler seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor; the motion carried. Closed Session ended at 10:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION FOR TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT

Ms. Liddell moved to approve Board Report #14-29, recommending the termination of employment of Ms. Ann Pontarelli. Ms. Kissler seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The roll was called, and all were in favor; the motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Ms. Liddell moved to accept the Closed Session minutes of the following meetings: Committee of the Whole, November 12, 2013; Regular Board Meeting, November 21, 2013, and Regular Board Meeting, January 23, 2014. Ms. Walsh seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The roll was called, and all were in favor; the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:33 p.m.

Patricia Kriegermeier, Recording Secretary

Chris Jenner, Board Secretary