

MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OF McHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE

A Special Board meeting of the Board of Trustees of McHenry County College was held on Thursday, May 12, 2016 in the Board Room, Room A217, in Building A on the Campus. Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. When Ms. Kisser called the roll, the following were present:

Ms. Kisser
Ms. Liddell
Mr. Parrish
Ms. Tirio
Ms. Walsh
Mr. Smith

Upon reaching a quorum, Chair Smith asked for a motion and second to allow Trustee Jenner to participate in the meeting by telephone. Ms. Liddell so moved, and Mr. Parrish seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The roll was called and all were in favor; the motion carried.

Chair Smith asked Trustee Jenner to confirm that any closed session conversation would be kept confidential and Trustee Jenner so confirmed.

When Ms. Kisser called the roll again, the following were present:

Mr. Jenner
Ms. Kisser
Ms. Liddell
Mr. Parrish
Ms. Tirio
Ms. Walsh
Mr. Smith

Dr. Gabbard was also present.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Chair Smith noted that acceptance of the agenda would be added to the agenda. The agenda was accepted as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

HEALTH CAREERS/SCIENCE LABS DISCUSSION

Dr. Gabbard thanked the Board for meeting tonight to have this discussion. He noted that the MCC graduates this Saturday range from ages 16 to 64; there are 61 different degrees and certificates being awarded at graduation. He noted that folks are competing for scant resources, and trying to figure out how to best divide resources. He has heard all Trustees say that something must be done about the science labs; tonight's discussion will focus on 1/what do we need to do to make our science labs functional learning spaces? and 2/should the science space be moved elsewhere, what could be put there that would be economical but also address health careers programs? Dr. Gabbard noted that health careers is not the only focus at MCC; manufacturing would love to have more space. He added that the plan being presented tonight answers the Board's questions – can we do this, and what is the most economical way to do it? Discussion tonight will be in two parts: 1/science lab spaces, and 2/how to use rooms vacated if science space is moved elsewhere.

Dr. Miksa referred to handouts provided to Trustees. Current space is shown, as well as the space that administration believes is needed, along with rationales. He reminded Trustees that the science space was built before technology was in the classroom, teachers taught differently, and students learned differently. The current space is not conducive to a teacher walking around the room to engage students, and students who need to be working in collaborative groups. He added that the cadaver lab was eliminated due to space constraints, and that great new technology does not replace the need to work with cadavers. Mr. Parrish inquired about the SimMan technology and Dr. Miksa replied that SimMan is used in health careers courses – the SimMan simulates activities in a hospital bed that students can respond to. Dr. Miksa also noted that the current science labs have not been able to keep up with accessibility changes. Dr. Gabbard asked that discussion pause for questions and answers. He

stated that if we don't get past this step, the second step doesn't make any sense. Discussion followed on the space proposed, and Dr. Gabbard commented that after space had been pared down to a bare minimum, Demonica Kemper Architects was consulted to draft the plan.

Mr. Parrish offered compliments on this different approach stated it is what he was looking for. Ms. Kisser asked how many students were currently enrolled; Dr. Miksa replied that enrollment is between 7,000 and 8,000 students and Ms. Kisser made the point that one out of fourteen students is enrolled in the health science programs, and will be taking science courses. Dr. Miksa stated that accrediting bodies for programs such as nursing, physical therapy assistant, and occupational therapy assistant require dedicated space for each program. He added that the classrooms for these programs are filled with equipment that students can touch, see how they work, and talk with other students about. He noted this aspect of education is why Centegra has partnered with McHenry County College for so many years. Dr. Gabbard stated that original space estimates and initial cost estimates were given to a couple of construction management firms as the Board suggested, to look at the scope of work, materials, setting, and idea, so they could determine if we are on the right path, and whether the work could be done more inexpensively. A team from Pepper Construction looked at the plan, and felt it was basic enough, with not a whole lot of spectacular things going on. Pepper Construction provided a review and also additional items and costs that might be considered.

Additional discussion followed on the previous suggestion to put science labs in a building off site; Dr. Gabbard noted that if the addition was only for Health Careers classes, an off-site location might be considered. For science classes, integrating science facilities into the existing campus is a big priority. Dr. Gabbard noted that Pepper Construction verified that costs are appropriate and have not been inflated. Ms. Kisser expressed her concern that there must be space for students to congregate; she would like to see images of such space which Dr. Gabbard stated would cost around \$250,000.00.

Ms. Tirio asked how this would be paid for; Dr. Gabbard stated that some early modeling has been done. Approximately \$7,000,000.00 of College funds set aside for potential projects would go toward this cost, and a capital campaign would raise \$7-8,000,000.00 toward the project. A student infrastructure fee of \$5.00 would raise a similar amount of money toward the project.

Ms. Liddell asked whether the student collaborative space would be enough; she did not want to short-sight space needed for students to work outside the classroom. Dr. Gabbard will send additional information to the Board showing additional collaboration space.

Mr. Parrish stated he thought MCC would be applauded by the whole community; he is in support of this project. Dr. Gabbard replied this is a great plan to raise money on; it addresses the needs without adding things that are not priorities right now.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:39 p.m., Ms. Kissler 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.* Ms. Liddell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The roll was called and all were in favor; the motion carried. A break was taken at 7:40 p.m. and Closed Session began at 7:47 p.m.

At 7:57 p.m., Ms. Liddell moved to come out of Closed Session and Ms. Walsh seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken and all were in favor; the motion carried. Closed Session ended at 7:57 p.m.

SUMMARY COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Parrish thanked the Board for their patience and tolerance; he announced that he will graduate from Northern Illinois University tomorrow. He was greeted by applause.

Ms. Liddell expressed her thanks for bringing in tonight's proposal; she expressed her concern that it was so "vanilla." Dr. Gabbard replied that he was not in community college work because we build glorious buildings; we do create good learning space.

Ms. Kisser stated all need to realize we are giving up something important in the other plan. Ms. Walsh added that she hopes everyone looks at the plan and comes back to the Committee of the Whole to have an honest exchange; she noted that the support of the entire Board is needed to move forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Patricia Kriegermeier, Recording Secretary

Chris Jenner, Board Secretary