

MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
OF McHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, in the MCC Conference Room, Rooms 211-215 of Building A on the Crystal Lake Campus. Vice Chair Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. When Secretary Allen called the roll, the following were present:

Ms. Siddons
Mr. Smith
Ms. Speros
Ms. Walsh
Ms. Hoban
Mr. Allen
Ms. Evertsen
Ms. German

Dr. Gabbard was present. Attorney Samuel Cavnar was present as legal counsel.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The minutes of the August 18, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting were accepted as presented.

OPEN FOR RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

It was noted there were no public comments this evening.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Gabbard reported on how the College's processes have developed and solidified in addressing COVID-19 and the likelihood of increasing positive cases county-wide as we move forward. Focus continues to be on the health and safety of the MCC community, and the College's responsibility to not increase risk as students come to campus to pursue their education goals. In addition to the face-covering requirement and intensive cleaning and ionization processes, the thermal screening stations installed at the three entrances to campus buildings have been helpful. Dr. Gabbard reiterated that planning begins with prevention before someone walks in MCC's doors, and the College has established a process to address COVID positive, presumptive positive, and possible exposure incidents. MCC also works in collaboration with the McHenry County Department of Health and their contact tracing protocol as administration addresses COVID within the campus community, maintaining stringent processes to mitigate risk. MCC has had several incidents, but at much lower occurrence rates than McHenry County is experiencing. Ms. Rachel Boldman outlined all the steps taken and processes that occur to isolate affected students and staff, assess their close contact with others, and to provide them with the ability to quarantine while continuing classes and/or work remotely in order to reduce and prevent spread within our campus community. The College's proactive and

preventative measures in part lend to its experiencing relatively low incidence rates, and students and staff have been very compliant and helpful. Information from Dr. Gabbard and Ms. Boldman was offered to give context and understanding why the College remains confident with the limited on-campus class instruction currently delivered. The information presented was intended to help all understand the College's processes and to better discern information received from both the College and outside media sources.

Dr. Gabbard went on to report that the President's Task Force on Diversity & Inclusion held its first meeting today. Meetings will be ongoing, with the task force assessing what may be needed in order to make changes to become an even better, inclusive campus for all.

Donor support during the current pandemic has been extremely generous, and Dr. Gabbard reported on an incredible series of gifts to the College which have created new scholarships to help more students achieve their educational goals.

PRESENTATION ON WORKFORCE EDUCATION:

Ms. Catherine Jones gave an overview on Workforce Development, highlighting the programs, partnerships, and also how things have shifted during the COVID pandemic. She recapped the various workforce and career trainings offered, continuing education opportunities and also the services provided by the Illinois Small Business Development Center and Career Services. In response to the COVID pandemic and its resulting restrictions, learning modes have shifted to include some remote opportunities. She spoke about the Manufacturing Pathways Consortium and the partnerships with other businesses in manufacturing, health care, and Information Technology. Ms. Jones ended by showcasing the new online registration platform for noncredit programming, which will help people find the information and trainings they need, and to enable those interested to register for classes quickly and efficiently at any time. This new platform has been integrated into the College's website and is now fully functional.

PRELIMINARY AUGUST FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mr. Tenuta recapped the August preliminary financial statements, with little to note as we are early in the fiscal year. He recapped some planned upcoming expenditures and continues to monitor where the College stands fiscally and where it is headed, as well as how the state responds to the economy.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/SUMMARY COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Smith shared that the Board is nearing the time to complete the annual evaluation of Dr. Gabbard. He expects the Board will receive the president's summary of progress on goals the week of October 5-9 and discussions of the evaluation will begin at the October 13 COTW meeting. The Trustees will complete evaluations with the final objective to vote on any recommendations at the November 19 Board of Trustees meeting. He will work with Mary Cornett to coordinate the process.

Ms. Siddons expressed her appreciation for the hard work done on the budget which she feels is conservative and prudent, noting the difficulty in developing a budget in such uncertain times, and given the ambiguity about the state and all the unknowns. Related to the budget, she thanked the Board for their active participation in budget discussions with the Finance & Audit Committee. Ms. Siddons also appreciates the extraordinary efforts by administrators to get students back on campus safely and

efficiently. She ended by acknowledging the success of the Foundation's recent annual golf outing, noting good turnout and financial support.

Ms. Evertsen asked that, given the fact that MCC is doing so well attracting students who are taking more credit hours, whether some idea of demographics of students could be identified in order to continue focus and great momentum with MCC's fall enrollment increases.

Ms. Hoban enjoyed and appreciated the Workforce Development information provided at tonight's meeting.

Ms. Walsh requested we bring in PFM, the College's investment consultants, to do a presentation at an upcoming Finance & Audit Committee meeting. She also asked whether the College could promote the need for election judges, highlighting these will be paid – and well as – civic opportunities.

CLOSED SESSION

No closed session was held. Approval of the closed session minutes of February 18, May 19, and August 18, 2020 will be moved to a future agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Vice Chair Walsh called the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Mary Cornett, Recording Secretary

Thomas E. Allen, Board Secretary