

MINUTES

Approved on 11/17/20

North Shore Community College

Board of Trustees

Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 4:45 pm - 6:30 pm

VIA ZOOM

In Attendance

Alex Stone; Andrea Gayle-Bennett; Anh Dao Tran-Moseman; Barbara Heinemann; Dr. Dharma Cortés; Dr. J.D. LaRock; Maria Vega-Viera

Not In Attendance

Joseph Riley; Nicole Bluefort

Additional Attendees

Interim President Nate Bryant; Vice President Madeline Wallis; Vice President Jan Forsstrom; Vice President Karen Hynick; Interim Vice President Stephen Creamer; Linda Brantley; Miranda Gualtieri; Thanh Giddarie; Tim Johnson; Eileen Gerenz; Jacob Rothwell; Amanda Dooling; Kam Kay; Vanessa Bates; Kimberly Odusami; Paul Doeg (RH Perry); Jesse Thompson (RH Perry); Steve Cohen (O'Connor & Drew); David Coppola (O'Connor & Drew)

Approximately 3 members of the public

1. 4:45 Call to Order

Chair LaRock called the meeting to order at 4:48.

2. 4:46 Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. 5:03 Chair's Report

Chair LaRock reported on the BHE meeting earlier in the day. The meeting included presentations on enrollment and institutional finances. NSCC is at its lowest enrollment in 25 years, but remains strong in context, as public institutions are grappling with steady declines in enrollment and managing finances.

There was discussion about the critical importance of managing further potential draw of reserves and the need for a continued discussion on how to reimagine NSCC.

a. Review minutes of 9/22/20 Doc: 12 FY2021

Chair LaRock asked if there were any edits to the meeting minutes of 9/22/20. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes of 9/22/20.

- Motion 21:04 to approve minutes of 9/22/20

Move: Barbara Heinemann Second: Maria Vega-Viera Status: Passed

4. 5:05 Presidential Search Committee

Interim President Bryant excused himself at 5:05pm.

a. Presidential Search Profile Doc: 13 FY2021

Chair LaRock welcomed Paul Doeg and Jesse Thompson from RH Perry. Paul reviewed the draft prospectus. He reported that robust input was provided by two members of the search committee. There was discussion about some of the points of distinction at NSCC, such as the Allied Health Program, winning the Federal Reserve Bank Challenge 4 years in a row, and also the college being a hispanic serving institution. Additionally, there was discussion about the transition of leadership and the ordering of qualifications on the prospectus. Chair LaRock asked for a motion to accept the presidential search prospectus as presented with a notation to edit the points of distinction, leadership transition and ordering of the qualifications.

- Motion 21:05 to accept the Presidential Search Profile

Move: Andrea Gayle-Bennett Second: Barbara Heinemann Status: Passed

b. Candidacy of Interim President Bryant

Chair LaRock reported that Commissioner Santiago has made the decision to allow local boards the discretion as to enabling interim presidents to apply in a presidential search. Chair LaRock confirmed with the trustees that all were still in support of enabling Dr. Bryant to apply in the presidential search and asked for a motion to enable the interim president to apply in the presidential search.

- Motion 21:06 to enable interim president to apply in presidential search

Move: Anh Dao Tran-Moseman Second: Andrea Gayle-Bennett Status: Passed

5. 5:25 Finance Committee

Trustee Tran-Moseman left the meeting at 5:45pm.
Interim President Bryant rejoined the meeting at 5:47pm.

a. FY20 Audit Doc: 14 FY2021

Steve Cohen and David Coppola from O'Conner & Drew presented the college audit. The required communications were reviewed, as well as unusual and significant activities as of June 30th, which included \$742, 650 in Federal Cares Act emergency grants to students and \$63,478 Federal Cares Act institutional portion. The FY2016 IRS 1098T proposed penalty was resolved with an abatement and is no longer an issue. There were no issues with the audit.

Trustee Stone asked for a motion to approve the FY20 Audit.

- Motion 21:07 to approve FY20 Audit

Move: Dr. Dharma Cortes Second: Maria Vega-Viera Status: Passed

b. Q4 FY20 Budget Doc: 16 FY2021

Trustee Stone reported that the Q4 Budget reconciles with the financial statements. He asked for a motion to accept the Q4 FY2021 Budget.

- Motion 21:08 to accept Q4 FY20 Budget

Move: Barbara Heinemann Second: Dr. J.D. LaRock Status: Passed

6. 5:55 Interim President's Report Doc: 17 FY2021

Interim President Bryant presented a slide from the BHE meeting earlier in the day that depicted negative enrollment trends related to the pandemic. Prevalent factors included student personal finances, technology barriers, increase in childcare responsibilities, gap years, discomfort with distance learning, health and safety concerns of returning to the classroom, lack of campus life, lack of events and losing students of lower income and color due to the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on these communities.

a. Covid-19 Update

Interim President Bryant reported that there are no new Covid-19 developments on the campuses.

b. Future of NSCC

Interim President Bryant reviewed the impact of Covid-19 on the community. There are disparities in technology and home environment. There is a decline in high school seniors and a decline in college attendance by race. The income gap is widening.

Interim President Bryant initiated discussion on what the new reality will be and how to move forward in making informed decisions. He asked trustees for their thoughts on a Covid Plan and a Post Covid Plan.

Trustees commented on the many barriers of Covid and the need to strengthen community relationships. There was general consensus among trustees that it is time to innovate and take calculated risks.

There was also discussion on the need to focus exclusively on the opportunities to innovate.

Chair LaRock thanked Interim President Bryant for starting the conversation of the future of NSCC.

7. 6:29 Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32pm.

Respectfully submitted by Miranda Gualteri