

## Meeting Minutes

NSCC

Board of Trustees

Tuesday, September 19, 2023, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Lynn Board Room LS328 and Zoom

### In Attendance

Joseph Riley, Maria Vega-Viera, Richard Yagjian, Marissa Vaillancourt, Michael Pollack, Rosario Ubiera-Minaya

### Zoom Attendees

J.D. LaRock, Andrea Gayle-Bennett, Barbara Heineman, AnhDao Tran-Moseman, Francesca Purcell

### Additional Attendees

William Heineman, Jill Palermo, Laurie LaChapelle, Kathryn Nielsen, Linda Brantley, Torrey Dukes, Jennifer Mezquita, Jan Forsstrom, Tim Johnson, Lisa Silveria, Mark Priest, Rhian Waterberg, Andrea DeFusco-Sullivan, Nikki Pelonia, Nickolaos Giokas

- 5:00pm Call to Order

Chair LaRock called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

- 5:05pm New Members of the North Shore Community Doc: 1 FY 2024

President Heineman read names, titles and departments of new employees at NSCC. New employees who were present were invited to introduce themselves.

- 5:10pm Public Comments

There were no public comments

- 5:15pm Introduction of New Student Trustee

President Heineman introduced the new FY24 Student Trustee, Marissa Vaillancourt. Marissa gave the Board a brief bio on herself. She is in the Funeral Service program at NSCC. She hopes to graduate with her Associate's degree in Funeral Service and transfer to Worcester State University for her Bachelor's degree in Education. Marissa works fulltime and is a substitute teacher at a local elementary school in her community, all while attending NSCC full time. Marissa will present her first Student Report to the Board at the October Board meeting.

- 5:20pm Chair's Report

Review minutes of 6/20/23 Doc: 2 FY 2024 and minutes of 8/11/23 Summer retreat:  
Doc: 3 FY2024

Chair LaRock asked if there were any corrections or edits to the minutes of 6/20/23 and/or the from the minutes of the Board Retreat on 8/11/23.

Co-Vice Chair Maria Vega-Viera noted the wrong year was referenced in the notes on the opening of the new Bertolon Center, from the 6/20/23 meeting notes (this has been corrected). He then asked for a consensus motion to approve the minutes of 6/20/23 and 8/11/23.

\*Motion 24:01 to accept the minutes of 6/20/23 and 8/11/23

Move: Barbara Heinemann      Second: Joseph Riley  
Motion Passed

- Final FY24 Budget Review Doc: 4 FY2024

VP Forsstrom reviewed the Final FY 24 budget. VP Forsstrom noted that for the first time in many years we have seen an increase in revenue from tuition and fees. She noted a few adjustments were made on the expenditures side, mostly in the personnel line, compared to the preliminary FY24 budget shared in June. The college is comfortable with the adjustments made. Some adjustments in Academic affairs were also made on the non- personnel side. It was noted that the bids for the Bertolon Center expansion project came in lower than expected, which is good news for the college and the budget. VP Forsstrom stated that the budget is balanced with a small surplus. Adjustments will be made for the Spring if needed so that we stay balanced.

It was reported that a large portion of the salary line is for the collective bargaining agreement increases that we have not received yet. The college should be receiving funding from the state to fund these increases. Once received we will implement this funding. The AFSCME collective bargaining agreement increases, which are quite substantial will be implemented this year. The MCCC's opportunity for similar sized increases is lagging behind AFSCME contract, and not likely until next fiscal year. MassReconnect will contribute to the overall revenue at the college but is not identified in the budget as its own line. There is also funding from the state for nursing students to attend college for free. Students are required to submit a FASFA, whatever costs are left over after other aid is applied will be covered by MassReconnect and the Free Nursing program. There has also been \$100k distributed to each college to market the MassReconnect Program or to provide extra administrative support.

Trustee Yagjian asked if we know when we can anticipate the funding for the smaller salary increases the MCCC is due. VP Forsstrom noted we are hopeful it will come in October.

Chair LaRock asked what we can expect for a budget in FY25? VP Forsstrom is hopeful there will be an increase in revenue again.

\*Motion 24:02 to approve the FY24 Final Budget

Move: Joseph Riley  
Motion Passed

Second: Francesca Purcell

- 5:50pm Equity Related Professional Development/Discussions (leftover from Retreat) Doc: 5 FY2024

Chief Diversity & Equity Officer Nikki Pelonia, Co-Vice Chair Maria Vega-Viera and Trustee Rosario Ubiera-Minaya introduced themselves ahead of their presentation to provide a framing of NSCC's equity work for dialogue and discussion as it relates to policy and procedure. There was a group activity discussing participant's name(s) and how they came to have their name(s). Folks were asked to share out. Most shared stories of their family's histories and how they came to have their name and/or if their name has cultural significance. A few also shared what it has been like for them to have their name throughout different stages of their life. Part of DEI work is TRUST and this exercise practiced trust by sharing personal history.

A video about oppression was shown. The video noted the 4 I's of oppression, which are Ideological, Institutional, Interpersonal, and Internalized. The DEI Committee will focus on Institutional Oppression and examining Bias in Policy.

Another group exercise analyzing different scenarios took place-the groups talked about hypothetical hiring practices, scholarship awarding criteria and tenure and promotion criteria practices, as well as in their own experiences, and how Bias in Policy can affect all of these areas.

Some examples of NSCC's own policies were shared. Examining these policies and removing biases will be the ongoing work this committee will be focusing on. Trustee Ubiera-Minaya expressed her eagerness to make space on the Board to connect and remove biases that may exist already. Co-Vice Chair Vega Viera noted that through DEI we can improve positive outcomes for our students.

- 6:45pm President's Report

Enrollment update-

President Heineman shared that our fall enrollment student numbers are up about 10%. He clarified it will be a few more weeks before we have final enrollment numbers. With a new set of classes starting today there are hopes this number will increase even more. President Heineman pointed out that the number of new students is up! He shared some enrollment statistics with the Board, to include; 26% of our students attend full time, 54% are students of color,  $\frac{1}{3}$  are Hispanic and 38% are white. The average number of credits being taken per student is 8 credits. President Heineman expressed a heartfelt Thank You to everyone at the college for their part in making these positive enrollment outcomes a reality.

Trustee Tran-Moseman asked about MassReconnect and retention, and what, if any, issues there might be around MassReconnect students who do not finish their program of study.

Provost Mezquita answered with some time restrictions associated with finishing a program. She noted that if additional time is needed by a student, a waiver/extension can be filed. Chair LaRock noted the growth of diversity among the student body as a positive outcome of the work being done at the college.

- Quick Updates

President Heineman let the Trustees know, that as discussed at the retreat, a list of NSCC events they might be interested in attending is being compiled. The list will be updated throughout the year and shared with Trustees.

- 6:55pm Other Business

There was no other business.

- 7:00pm Adjournment

Chair LaRock adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m.