

Whatcom

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

237 W. Kellogg Road, Bellingham

Laidlaw 143

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

2:00 p.m.

- **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Teresa Taylor officially called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Present in addition to the chair were trustees Jeff Fairchild, Rebecca Johnson, and Wendy Bohlke, constituting a quorum. Trustee John Pedlow was absent. Others present included President Hiyane-Brown; Nate Langstraat, Vice President for Administrative Services; Steven Thomas, Interim Vice President for Instruction; James Siegel, Vice President for Student Services; Julianna deHaan Rice, Assistant Attorney General; and Rafeeka Kloke, Executive Director for the Office of the President.

Chair Taylor began with a land acknowledgement to recognize and pay respect to the Coast Salish Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories.

ACTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

- Trustee Bohlke moved to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Trustee Johnson and the **motion was approved.**
- Chair Taylor announced that there is a designated time for public comment on the agenda.

INTRODUCTIONS

- The following new employees were introduced:
- Stacey Carroll, Interim Executive Director for Human Resources
 - Gerda Reeb, Dean for Student Success

CONSENT AGENDA

➔ Consent Agenda

Minutes of October 18, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting.

Chair Taylor stated: "If there are no objections, item in the consent agenda will be adopted." As there was no objection, this item was adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- ➔ Chair Taylor called for public comment. There was no public comment.

STRATEGIC CONVERSATION

➔ Proposed 2023-2028 WCC Strategic Plan – Strategic Planning Core Team

President Kathi acknowledged the hard work of the Strategic Planning Core Team, members included: Leo Hopcroft, Faculty; Dawn Gallardo, Faculty; Brian Keeley, Exempt; Jon Spores; Exempt; Mark Price, Classified; Asta Johansen; Classified; Josh Norton, Student; Thistle Gonzalez, Student; Rafeeka Kloke, Staff to the Board; Kathi Hiyane-Brown, Ex-officio; Sarah Simpson, Planning Coordinator; and Stephen Shields, Consultant.

She also provided an overview of the strategic planning process and timeline. Core team members: Mark Price, Brian Keeley, Leo Hopcroft, Asta Johansen, Dawn Gallardo and Jon Spores discussed each of the four strategic goals including key feedback received.

President Kathi thanked the WCC Foundation for funding support for the planning process which included the hiring of Steven Shields, strategic planning consultant.

➔ Marketing campaign highlight – Marni Saling Mayer, Director for Communications & Marketing

Mayer shared a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of a recent marketing campaign for Running start. She highlighted the strategies for selection and updates of graphics and messages based on analytics to inform future campaigns for increase return on investments on our ads.

ACTION ITEM

➤ Proposed 2023-2028 WCC Strategic Plan

Trustee Bohlke moved to approve the proposed 2023-2028 WCC Strategic Plan. It was seconded by Trustee Fairchild. The motion was approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- President Kathi thanked facilities, safety and security, and other administrative services staff for their work with management of the fire incident.
- Donor Appreciation Breakfast was held on October 18, 2023. It provided a great opportunity for students to connect and thank donors. The program featured four student scholarship recipients who shared their inspirational stories which resulted in a \$50,000 gift from a first-time donor.
- Phyllis and Charles Self invited approximately 60 friends to tour the Phyllis and Charles Self Learning Commons. Two of the tour attendees gifted a 1/3 of their estate to the College.
- The College is expected to receive a full estate from a new donor worth approximately \$2 million.
- President Kathi received sabbatical recommendations from the Professional Advisory Committee. Applicants will receive notification of the final decision before the end of fall quarter.
- On October 23, 2023, Whatcom Community Foundation hosted an event on WCC campus. Kiran Ahuja, Director of Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and Seeyew Mo, Assistant Office of National Cyber Director (ONCD) for Workforce, Education and Awareness at The White House, engaged with students in the morning to promote federal career opportunities and engaged with community leaders around how to support a diverse and distributed workforce, including how to address some of the most pressing community challenges such as mental health, childcare and housing affordability in the afternoon.
- On October 27, 2023, 150 high school students attended the Learning with Leaders event on WCC campus to learn about WCC's program offerings.
- President Kathi recently met with presidents of Western Washington University, Bellingham Technical College and Northwest Indian College to exchange ideas and discuss collaboration opportunities.

DISCUSSION/ITEMS OF THE BOARD

➤ Proposed 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting schedule

Trustee Johnson moved to approve the 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting schedule. It was seconded by Trustee Bohlke. The motion was approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- At 3:15 p.m. the meeting was adjourned for a closed session of the Board for fifty-five minutes as provided in RCW 42.31.110, to discuss collective bargaining and a Executive Session immediately after the closed session... to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee...; and to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to litigation or legal risks of a proposed action or current practice the agency has identified when public discussion of the litigation or legal risks is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency...

Chair Taylor announced that action was not anticipated. Guests included President Kathi Hiyane-Brown, Vice Presidents Nate Langstraat, and Assistant Attorney General Juliana deHaan Rice.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 4:10 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 4:10 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.



Chair of the Board

12/13/2023

Date



President and Secretary of the Board

12/13/2023

Date