

Whatcom

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Auxiliary Services Building, #111

620 W. Kellogg Road, Bellingham, WA 98226

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

2:00 p.m.

- ➔ **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Barbara Rofkar officially called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Present in addition to the chair were trustees Sue Cole, Steve Adelstein, Chuck Robinson, and Tim Douglas, constituting a quorum. Others present included President Hiyane-Brown; Ron Leatherbarrow, Vice President for Instruction; Nate Langstraat, Vice President for Administrative Services; Trish Onion, Vice President for Educational Services; Ed Harri, Dean for Instruction; Anne Bowen, Executive Director for Advancement and Foundation; Lisa Wochos, Assistant Attorney General; Vivian Hallmark, WFSE Representative; Britton Johnson, ASWCC President; and Keri Parriera, Executive Assistant to the President.

TOUR OF BUILDING

The meeting began with Brian Keeley, Senior Director of Facilities and Operations, providing a guided tour of the Auxiliary Services Building. At the conclusion of the tour, trustees and attendees resumed their seats in room # 111.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

- ➔ President Kathi introduced Felia Jett, one of Whatcom Community College's nominees to the All Washington Academic Team. Ms. Jett spoke of her time at Whatcom and about her future goals.
- ➔ Brian Keeley introduced Jonah Stinson who holds the new position of Emergency Preparedness and Safety Manager. This position is jointly funded and shared between WCC, BTC and WWU. Jonah spoke about his background and as his assignments with the colleges and university.

ACTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

- ➔ Trustee Tim Douglas moved to approve the meeting agenda as proposed. It was seconded by Trustee Chuck Robinson, and the **motion was approved unanimously**.
- ➔ Trustee Barbara Rofkar announced that there is a designated time for public comment on the agenda.

STRATEGIC CONVERSATIONS

- “The Crystal Ball: Marrying Workforce Needs, Economic Trends and Professional Technical Programs” (*Goal 1: Expand opportunities for students to achieve their potential --1.1. Increase student achievement in transfer and career preparation*) –Janice Walker, Workforce Education Director

Janice presented a PowerPoint on the Professional/Technical programs offered at WCC and answered questions posed by the trustees.

CONSENT AGENDA

➤ Consent Agenda (Calendar)

- a. Minutes of the March 14, 2013, Board of Trustees Meeting.

Chair Rofkar stated: “If there are no objections, this item will be adopted.” As there were no objections, **this item was adopted.**

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

- President Kathi acknowledged the excellent successes accomplished by Kris Baier and his staff in their work with our student government leaders and student athletics. The Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) recently recognized WCC student athletes for earning the highest GPA averages within the system.

Additionally, WCC student leaders are continuing their leadership service at transfer universities. Jarred Tyson, a recent Whatcom transfer to WWU, served as this year's AS Club Coordinator and was elected the Associated Students Vice President for Activities for the 2013-2014 academic year.

- President Kathi, Vice President Trish Onion, and Dean Ed Harri attended a recent meeting of the Northwest Higher Ed Consortium at BTC. Of interest was the work in sustainability that the subcommittee is accomplishing. The group is planning a Sustainability Conference for February 2014, in Bellingham. WCC faculty member Bob Riesenbergh has been instrumental in planning and organizing this event. BTC announced its increased emphasis on transfer courses and degrees.
- Recent word from Wayne Doty, SBCTC Capital Budget Director, indicates that the State House proposed budget cuts funding of all capital projects, which would affect our Learning Commons pre-design and design project. President Kathi has been in contact with our local legislators regarding this sensitive issue. Another sensitive bill seeks a 20% surcharge on International student tuition.
- Two invitations were distributed to the trustees.
 - April 27, 10 a.m-12:30 p.m. at the Guru Nanak Gursikh Temple in Lynden to celebrate Vaisakhi (Khalsa Foundation Day). Satpal Sidhu, one of our WCC Foundation Directors, is the spokesperson for the Sikh Temple.

- June 16, 6-9 pm at the Squalicum Boathouse to bid farewell to our NWCCI international grant students.
- ➔ President Kathi will be attending two conferences in San Francisco beginning on Friday. At the American Association of Community College (AACC) convention, she will be attending commission and council meetings, presenting a full-day workshop on diversity and leadership, presenting with Jan Yoshiwara on the SBCTC efficiency study, and serving on a panel on Women and Higher Education Leadership. After the AACC convention, Kathi will present a half-day workshop for the annual Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) conference. On her return to Washington State, President Kathi proceeds directly to the April WACTC meeting.

REPORTS

- ➔ **ASWCC** – Britton Johnson, President
 - Britton introduced himself as the newly elected President of the ASWCC. Brian Gonzalez replaced Britton as the Executive Vice President and serves as the interim Chair for Budget and Finance.
 - The ASWCC is beginning work on the associated students proposed budget for 2013-14, and is also continuing revisions to the bylaws.
 - A Civics Week is being held in May, focusing on voter registration. The Council is working with the Whatcom Auditor's Office to secure a ballot box location on campus.
 - A suicide prevention focus is coming soon, along with other wellness events. The Council is also recruiting teams for the annual Ski to Sea race, parade, and festival.
- ➔ **WSEA** – Vivian Hallmark, Representative
 - Vivian reported that the classified union supports the proposed contract and health benefits.
 - Vivian announced that a new representative will take her place as she is retiring in May. The Board thanked her for her years of service and representation to them.
- ➔ **Administrative Services** – Nate Langstraat, Interim Vice President
 - Nate reported on the consulting firm interview process for the Learning Commons building project. The committee selected the firm of Schreiber Starling & Lane Architects.
 - The college will soon begin soliciting community feedback regarding student housing issues.
 - Each of the three proposed legislative operating budgets include restoration of the 3% wage cut for the classified union employees.

➔ **Educational Services – Trish Onion, Vice President**

- Trish echoed President Kathi's praise of the student life staff work. The Council created a brochure to assist in recruiting high achieving students for student government positions.
- Trish volunteered for training on the SBCTC capital projects scoring process.
- Trish spoke about the Educational Services work group's discussion on competency-based curriculum.

➔ **Instruction Office – Ron Leatherbarrow, Vice President**

- nothing to add

➔ **Advancement/Foundation Office – Anne Bowen, Executive Director**

- Anne spoke about the 45th Anniversary Event on May 3 and encouraged the trustees to attend, if possible.

DISCUSSION/TACTC/ITEMS OF THE BOARD

➔ Trustee Tim Douglas reported on the planning for the TACTC Convention, May 16-17; invitations are going out soon. The theme is "envision," aligning the efforts of community colleges with the economic development in Washington State.

➔ **Board Summer Retreat Date**

- The tentative dates of August 13-16 were discussed. The consensus is that Tuesday and Wednesday are the best dates. Keri was asked to confirm the dates.
- The board agreed to cancel the work session scheduled for the May 8, Board of Trustees meeting. The regularly scheduled board meeting will now begin at 2 p.m. on that day.
- Trustees Tim Douglas and Sue Cole are working with Mary Vermillion to draft a letter to the Bellingham Herald in support of legislative funding for higher education.
- The State Senate today confirmed the trustee reappointment for Sue Cole.

PUBLIC COMMENT

➔ Chair Rofkar called for public comment. There was none.

BREAK

➔ The meeting recessed for a five-minute break at 4:05 p.m. The meeting reconvened into open session at 4:10 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

➔ At 4:10 p.m. the meeting was adjourned for a closed Executive Session of the Board for approximately 20 minutes "(g) ...as provided in RCW 42.30.140 (4)(a), to discuss collective bargaining...."

- Chair Rofkar announced that no action was anticipated. Guests included President Kathi Hiyane-Brown, Human Resources Director Becky Rawlings and Assistant Attorney General Lisa Wochos.

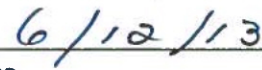
The Executive Session adjourned at 4:30 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 4:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.



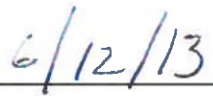
Chair of the Board



Date



President and Secretary of the Board



Date