

Whatcom

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

2:00 p.m.

- **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Rebecca Johnson officially called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Present in addition to the chair were trustees Wendy Bohlke, Steve Adelstein, and Teresa Taylor, constituting a quorum. Trustee John Pedlow was absent. Others present included President Hiyane-Brown; Nate Langstraat, Vice President for Administrative Services; Darlene Snider, Interim Dean for Workforce Education; Luca Lewis, Vice President for Student Services; Terri Thayer, Interim College Equity Officer; Kerena Higgins, Assistant Attorney General; and Rafeeka Kloke, Special Assistant to the President.

ACTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

➤ Consent Agenda

Minutes of the January 12, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting.

Chair Johnson stated: "If there are no objections with the noted change, item in the consent agenda will be adopted." As there were no objections, this item was adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Chair Johnson called for public comment. She announced a 15 minutes public comment period with 2 minutes allocated to each person.
- Ines Poblet, faculty, shared comments regarding student vaccine verification.
- Anna Wolff, faculty, shared comments regarding student vaccine verification.

STRATEGIC CONVERSATION

- ➔ Upward Bound Program Update – Sarah Simpson, Interim Project Director, TRIO Upward Bound and Adam Beals, Director for TRIO & Student Support

Simpson and Beals shared a PowerPoint presentation with an overview and updates of the TRIO Upward Bound program. Guest speakers included Collin Buckley, principal of Nooksack Valley High School and Aislinn Anaya, first year WCC student and Upward Bound graduate.

Highlights included:

- Services provided: one-on-one advising, tutoring and academic support, career counseling, monthly workshops, cultural field trips, college tours, and 6 week summer academy on WCC campus
- Student Centered Advising Model
- Total students served: 99
- Students who have enrolled in one or more WCC course: 53 plus

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- ➔ President Kathi shared an update on legislative bills relating to operating budget, capital budget, and cybersecurity funding.
- ➔ President Kathi shared that tenure recommendations will be presented to the Board on March 16, 2022 for board action.

DISCUSSION/ITEMS OF THE BOARD

- ➔ **WCC Trustees Endowment Award**

Chair Johnson shared that Thanks to the generosity of present and past Whatcom Community College trustees, the WCC Trustees Endowment Award was created to recognize students who have overcome barrier to achieve their educational goals as demonstrated by their selection as WCC's Transforming Lives Award nominee.

She presented the award to this year's recipient, Carlyn Finerty. Finerty was also the first recipient of this award.

Finerty serves as the president of the Associated Student of Whatcom Community College and a student representative on both the College's Campus Diversity Committee and Accessibility and Disability Services Committee. Finerty found her voice and identity at WCC with the support of faculty and staff. She is determined to use her voice to advocate for individuals with disabilities and neurodiversity. After graduating from WCC this spring, Finerty plans to transfer to WWU to pursue studies in Biochemistry & Neuroscience.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- At 2:55 p.m. the meeting was adjourned for a closed Executive Session of the Board to approximately forty-five minutes as provided in RCW 42.30.140 and 42.31.110, to discuss collective bargaining...; to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee, and to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase...

Chair Johnson announced that action was not anticipated. Guests included President Kathi Hiyane-Brown, Vice President Nate Langstraat, and Assistant Attorney General Kerena Higgins.

The Executive Session was extended for an additional fifteen minutes. The Executive Session was adjourned at 3:55 pm p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 3:55p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

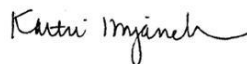
- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.



3/16/2022

Chair of the Board

Date



3/16/2022

President and Secretary of the Board

Date