

WILLIAM RAINEY HARPER COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT #512
COUNTIES OF COOK, KANE, LAKE, AND McHENRY, STATE OF ILLINOIS

Minutes of the Board Meeting and Workshop of Wednesday, March 13, 2024

I CALL TO ORDER

The workshop and meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 512 was called to order by Chair Kelley on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 4:24 p.m. in the Wojcik Amphitheater. (Note: previous to the meeting the Board visited the Innovation Accelerator lab)

II ROLL CALL

Present: Members Greg Dowell, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, Pat Stack, Nancy Robb, Bill Kelley and Student Trustee Kei Smith.

Absent: Member Herb Johnson

Also present: Dr. Avis Proctor, President; Dr. Maria Coons, Vice President of Strategic Alliances and Innovation/Board Liaison; Rob Galick, EVP Finance and Administrative Services; Darlene Schlenbecker, Vice President of Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness; Dr. Michelé Smith, Vice President of Workforce Solutions; Heather Zoldak, Chief Advancement Officer; Bob Parzy, Associate Provost

III AGENDA APPROVAL

Member Robb moved, Member Dowell seconded, approval of the agenda.

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, Pat Stack, Nancy Robb, and Bill Kelley

Nays: None.

Motion carried. Student Member Kei Smith advisory vote: aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

IV NEW BUSINESS

Exhibit IV-A: Approval of an Administrative Contract

Member Hill moved, Member Mundt seconded, to approve an administrative contract for Kristyn Meyer to serve as the Associate Executive Director of the Foundation/Major Gift, replacing Heather Zoldak who was appointed as the new Chief Advancement Office in December 2023.

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Nancy Robb, Pat Stack, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, and Bill Kelley.

Nays: None.

Motion carried. Student Member Kei Smith advisory vote: aye.

V Workshop Discussion
Items

Prior to the formal portion of the meeting, trustees participated in a demonstration of Artificial Intelligence in the Innovation Accelerator lab.

Dr. Proctor explained elements of the CHIPS and Science Act and how technologies touch all disciplines taught at the college. The college's goal is to also educate the community on these technologies and provide early exposure to students in the district. Many current workers are looking to retool and enhance their skills in these technologies.

Chair Kelley explained that AI was a focus at a current ICCTA session where Arthur Levine also addressed the trustees where he explained that community colleges need to remain nimble as entities like Coursera and Kahn Academy offer flexible options. He then asked each trustee for their thoughts.

Board members reflected that the college is making great strides to address these advancing technologies. They have learned about area companies that are performing virtual back surgeries and that these types of technologies will be enhanced, and their use will grow. The trustees also reflected on the need to collaborate with peer groups.

Dr. Proctor reviewed what was learned from a recent visit to a data center in Elk Grove Village and how Harper is preparing to address workforce needs in that sector. The Chicago area, and northwest suburbs in particular are attracting data centers.

Dr. Proctor asked Dr. Maria Coons to explain Harper's new status as a developing Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). Dr. Coons reviewed the process the college went through to obtain a waiver to qualify for a grant from the Department of Education; \$3 million was awarded over five years to address the following goals: 1) improve student success outcomes for underserved minority students; 2) enhance student supportive services and basic needs support; and 3) improve capacity to equitably evaluate initiatives that can be scaled. The college is in the process of operationalizing the grant.

Bob Parzy provided an overview of the challenges the college and students are facing due to the new FAFSA which is being overhauled. Financial Aid staff are fielding questions from students who are waiting for information on their aid. Mr. Parzy reviewed some of the new regulations that have been introduced for implementation.

The Board then reviewed the schedule for the President's Evaluation and the Board Self-Assessment. The President will complete a self-assessment by April 24; the Board will use the ACCT evaluation tool

between April 26-May 6; results will be provided by May 10. The Board will complete the ACCT Board self-assessment between May 20-June 3. Goals for next year will be developed after reviewing the results.

MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION

Member Dowell moved, Member Mundt seconded, to move into closed session per OMA 2(c)11 – Litigation at 5:34 p.m.

Ayes: Members Greg Dowell, Diane Hill, Walt Mundt, Pat Stack, Nancy Robb, Bill Kelley and Student Trustee Kei Smith.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

In a voice vote, motion to adjourn the meeting carried at 5:53 pm.

Chair

Secretary