

Whatcom

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Laidlaw Center Board Room

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

2:00 p.m.

- **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Steve Adelstein officially called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Present in addition to the chair were trustees Barbara Rofkar, John Pedlow, and Tim Douglas, constituting a quorum. Others present included President Hiyane-Brown; Curt Freed, Vice President for Instruction; Nate Langstraat, Vice President for Administrative Services; Luca Lewis, Vice President for Student Services; Anne Bowen, Executive Director for Advancement; Ed Harri, Dean for Instruction; Melissa Nelson, Assistant Attorney General; and Rafeeka Kloke, Special Assistant to the President.
- Chair Adelstein welcomed John Pedlow to the board and announced the resignation of Sue Cole effective February 1, 2016. Members of board expressed their appreciation of Cole's contributions during her tenure as a trustee.

ACTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

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

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

- Nate Langstraat, Vice President for Administrative Services introduced Raquel "Rocky" Vernola, WCC's new Emergency Preparedness, Safety and Security Manager. Vernola served as the Emergency Services Manager for the City of Norwalk (CA) for the past 16 years and was responsible for emergency planning and development of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery plans, procedures and training. She also serves on the California Governor's Task Force for School Lock Down and has affiliations with many community and multi state organizations related to emergency management.

STRATEGIC CONVERSATIONS

➤ Transitional Learning

Director for Transitional Learning, Carla Gelwicks and Transitional Learning Faculty, Guava Jordan provided an overview of Transitional Learning programs at WCC. Gelwicks introduced Emanuel Cabrera, a student in the High School 21+ program. Cabrera shared experience at WCC and the positive impact of the program.

CONSENT AGENDA

➤ Consent Agenda (Calendar)

- a. Minutes of the January 13, 2016 Board of Trustees Meeting (Attachment A)
- b. Proposed Fall Quarter Graduates (Attachment B)

Chair Adelstein 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 received a note from organizers of the MLK Human Rights Conference thanking the College and its staff; with special thanks to Russ Nelson, Judy Vas, and Betsy Hasegawa, for their hard work. Over 400 people attended the conference.
- In February, the College received letter from Sandra Elman, president of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and University that the Commission has accepted Whatcom's fall 2015 ad hoc report and WCC is in full compliance with all standards.
- Professional Development Day was a great success. Trustees John Pedlow and Tim Douglas were particularly impressed by the student panel that featured students with disabilities. One of the student panelists shared that she decided to move from California to enroll in WCC's cybersecurity program because of the services available to students with disabilities. The 2016 Judy Hoover Award for Excellence winner was announced on Professional Development Day. Anne Marie Karlberg was this year's recipient.
- President Kathi served on a panel at AACC Workforce Development Institute Conference. She spoke about Whatcom's leadership role in cybersecurity education.
- The College continues to work with the system to advocate for the supplemental capital budget for the community colleges. Legislators in 40th and 42nd legislative districts are supportive of the capital budget request which include WCC's Learning Commons project. However, the capital budget chair of the Senate Ways & Means committee is questioning the funding approach of supporting the cost of construction with Certification of Participations (COPs).

- Three faculty members were recommended and approved for promotion to professor this year; Guy Smith, Debbie Lancaster and Ben Kohn.
- Tenure notebooks are available for trustees' review.

REPORTS

- **ASWCC** –Aldo Suseno, President
 - Suseno welcomed and thanked trustee John Pedlow for serving on the board.
 - ASWCC Executive Board will be conducting a second survey to solicit student feedback on WTA Universal Bus Pass.

DISCUSSION/TACTC/ITEMS OF THE BOARD

- **ACT Conference**
 - Transforming Lives Award Dinner – Chair Adelstein and Trustee Douglas were impressed by the panel of students who shared personal stories of overcoming significant barriers to achieve academic goals.
 - There was a good turnout from the 40th and 42nd legislative representatives at the Legislative Reception on January 25.

- **ACCT National Legislative Summit**
 - Trustee Douglas and President Kathi spent a day with Rural Community College Association and met with representatives from US Department of Agriculture (USDA).
 - President Kathi will be working with cabinet members to explore grant opportunities available through USDA.

BREAK

- The meeting was adjourned for a 10-minute break at 3:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- At 3:10 p.m. the meeting was adjourned for a closed Executive Session of the Board for approximately 45 minutes "...to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease..." and "...to evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office..."

Chair Adelstein announced that no action was anticipated. Guests included President Kathi Hiyane-Brown, Vice President for Administrative Services, Nate Langstraat, and Assistant Attorney General Melissa Nelson. Trustee Steve Adelstein recused himself from the meeting during the discussion regarding real estate.

- The Executive Session was extended at 3:55 p.m. minutes for approximately twenty additional minutes.
- The Executive Session adjourned at 4:15 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session immediately.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Chair Adelstein called for public comment. There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:16 pm.



Chair of the Board



Date



President and Secretary of the Board



Date