



Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Room 2109, David C. Briegel

8 a.m. Regular Meeting

General Business

Members of the Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees met on April 14, 2021 for a regularly scheduled meeting.

The meeting was convened at 8:00 a.m. by Board Chairman Tom Jerdon.

Members Present: Tom Jerdon, Bill White, Becky Moore, Beth Cripe, Dr. Elaine Foster, Tracy Hertsel, Keith McKenzie

Members Absent: none

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the March 10, 2021 regular convened meeting required no changes and were placed on file.

Dr. Elaine Foster moved, seconded by Tracy Hertsel, to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Input

No individual requested to speak.

Other

The Treasurer's Report for the month ending March 31, 2021 was received and placed on file.

Dr. Odenwald gave his President's Report:

1. While on vacation in Louisiana and Mississippi, Dr. Odenwald reported that he had the opportunity to visit a few college campuses. In regard to the college's physical plants, he noted the strength of Southwestern Michigan College facilities in comparison to what he saw on his visit. Dr. Odenwald also observed excellent State support for the colleges in Mississippi, athletics are a major factor and most of the colleges have residential living.
2. Signage for the Starbucks site will arrive to campus in April. Sign placement will be determined upon arrival.
3. Graduation plans are moving forward for May Commencement. All decisions are pending State of Michigan regulations.
4. Clark Higher Education managed the implementation of the Customer Relationship Management system which is now live. Over 1,100 admission inquires have been received as a result of an email and mailing campaign.
5. The Higher Learning Education visit will take place on April 19 and 20, 2021. The visit will be predominately virtual with a small physical presence. Dr. Odenwald stated that he is confident with the college position going into the visit.

Discussion Items

Dr. David Fleming discussed the upcoming Higher Learning Commission(HLC) visit with the Board. SMC was last accredited in the 2010-2011 academic year. The visit will include virtual meetings with the faculty, the staff and the Board of Trustees. Upon the completion of the visit, the HLC peer review team will provide a recommendation to HLC Institutional Action Council for a final decision. SMC will receive decision notification within a month following the visit.

Trustees reviewed the list of gifts given to the Foundation, with 8 individual donations for a grand total in the amount of \$2,125.

Action Items

Beth Cripe moved, seconded by Bill White, to accept with gratitude the gifts shown in attachment 5A, with three individual donations for a grand total in the amount of \$3,300. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of Follow-up Requests

No follow-up requests were made of the administration.

Adjournment

Becky Moore moved to adjourn at 9:00 a.m. Tracy Hertsel seconded. Passed unanimously by individual roll call vote.



Beth Cripe, Secretary



Thomas F. Jerdon, Chairman