



Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Room 2109, David C. Briegel

8 a.m. Regular Meeting

General Business

Members of the Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees met on May 12, 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 April 14, 2021 regular convened meeting required no changes and were placed on file.

Tom Jerdon moved, seconded by Dr. Elaine Foster, to amend the agenda, adding Discussion Item 4B HLC Preliminary Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Input

No individual requested to speak.

Other

The Treasurer's Report for the month ending April 30, 2021 was received and placed on file.

Vice President Susan Coulston presented the Quarterly Financial Report for the quarter ending March 31, 2021.

Dr. Odenwald gave his President's Report:

Dr. Odenwald proposed that the Board consider the addition of four intercollegiate sports (Men's Wrestling, Men's and Women's Basketball and Women's Volleyball) at Southwestern Michigan College to begin in the fall 2022. Due to factored concerns of decreasing State funding, decreasing demographics and rising cost of business due to inflation, Dr. Odenwald stated that it is vital that SMC explore added revenue options. Dr. Trevor Kubatzke, President of Lake Michigan College, shared his perspective on the positive influence intercollegiate athletics have made at Lake Michigan College. Dr. David Fleming, Dr. Mark Hollandsworth and Dr. Ritch Reynolds discussed the positive effects an academic and athletic partnership would provide. Vice President Susan Coulston shared cost projections to bring athletics to SMC. Brent Brewer and Jeff Hooks provided information on recruiting for athletics and camp opportunities. Mike O'Brien and Vice President Susan Coulston shared architectural drawings regarding renovated and

new facilities that will be needed in order to complete the project. A preliminary budget for facility improvements was presented as well as the administration's plan to raise some of the funds.

Discussion Items

Trustees reviewed the list of gifts given to the Foundation, with 2 individual donations for a grand total in the amount of \$3,125.

Dr. David Fleming received the unofficial report from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) visit and shared it with the Board. The HLC Site Review Team recommended reaffirmation. Dr. Fleming reported that there were no sanctions, and that he will provide the two required interim reports to HLC. Dr. Odenwald thanked Dr. Fleming for his excellent work on the accreditation process.

Action Items

Tom Jerdon moved, seconded by Bill White, to approve the Board Policy Updates II.5, II.6 listed as item 5A. Motion passed unanimously.

Tracy Herstel moved, seconded by Dr. Elaine Foster, to authorize the college to seek NJCAA approval for four additional athletic teams and to fund the proposed project from the Building and Site Fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Beth Cripe moved, seconded by Becky Moore, to adopt the recommendation to hold the Public Budget Hearing at the next Regular meeting scheduled for June 9, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. and to proceed with the noted items on the Notice of Budget Hearing attachment at 5C. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Elaine Foster moved, seconded by Tracy Hertsel, that Financial Aid for Student Scholarships be designated as approved projects for the SMC Foundation for the 2021-2022 fiscal year as shown in attachment 5D which totals \$370,000 (\$300,000 from the General Scholarship and \$70,000 from the Edward Guse Scholarships). Motion passed unanimously.

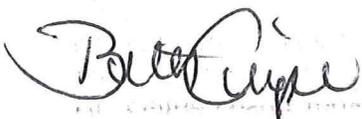
Keith McKenzie moved, seconded by Becky Moore, to accept with gratitude the gift shown in attachment 5E, with the individual donation in the amount of \$350. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of Follow-up Requests

No follow-up requests were made of the administration.

Adjournment

Bill White moved to adjourn at 10:35 a.m. Tracy Hertsel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.



Beth Cripe, Secretary



Thomas F. Jerdon, Chairman