

Clark College
Board of Trustees Special Meeting
Wednesday, August 26, 2020
Via Zoom

In Attendance

Rekah Strong, Chair
Jeanne Bennett, Vice Chair
Jane Jacobsen, Trustee
Jada Rupley, Trustee
Paul Speer, Trustee

Absent

None

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President
Rashida Willard, Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Others

Kim Witherspoon, Assistant Attorney General
Stephanie Weldy, Recorder

I. Call to Order/Agenda Review

Chair Strong called the meeting to order at 4:01pm.

II. Introductions

Chair Strong introduced the Board of Trustees and provided an opportunity for additional attendees to introduce themselves.

III. Audience Statements

No audience statements at this time.

IV. Reflections on Board Retreat

Trustee Speer reflected that the retreat was helpful and appreciated the format of three Board retreat sessions. Trustee Speer proposed the possibility of having two retreats in 2021. Trustee Bennett reflected that the retreat was helpful in identifying President Edwards' work plan. Trustee Jacobsen reflected that she would like to hear feedback from President Edwards in how the Board can best support her considering the unique challenges of meeting remotely. Chair Strong reflected on the work to be done regarding policy work and racial equity.

V. Adoption of Clark College Major Objectives and President Edwards' Proposed Work Plan

President Edwards shared her work plan highlighting four major objectives; improve student success, achieve financial stability, improve campus climate and expand and deepen community engagement.

Chair Strong shared that the Board is working with President Edwards on identifying meaningful Scorecards to be reported.

MOTION: Trustee Bennet made a motion to approve Clark College Major Objectives and President Edwards' Proposed Work Plan. Trustee Jacobsen seconded the motion and it unanimously passed.

VI. Adoption of the Charter for the Budget Committee

Trustee Speer shared that the Board Budget Committee is a charter that is being proposed in order to acknowledge the budget challenges and the impact of COVID. Trustee Speer shared that the Board voted to have two Trustees serve on the Committee; Trustee Speer and Trustee Bennett. Trustee Speer highlighted the purpose of the committee and clarified that it is informational sharing only. Trustee Speer shared that it would be most appropriate for President Edwards to chair the Committee. Trustee Bennett shared that the Trustee's role is to help bring some different perspectives for the work at hand.

MOTION: Trustee Speer made a motion to approve Board Budget Committee Charter. Trustee Jacobsen seconded the motion and it unanimously passed.

VII. Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – Recommendations for the Board

Rashida Willard, Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, presented the recommendations for the Board pertaining to leading with racial equity. Ms. Willard highlighted the importance of acknowledging history, Clark's desire for change and a vision for the direction of the future. Ms. Willard shared that the recommendations are professional development for the Board the encompasses the following courses: Equitable Decision-Making, Impact of Microaggressions, Red, White & Brown – A Timeline of Race in the United States and Power, Privilege and Inequity 101. Ms. Willard shared that it would be helpful for the Board to develop a Board Equity Statement, participation in the Northwest Regional Equity Conference for Higher Education (NWREC), growth assessment, utilizing the tools that were used during the Presidential search process and the Accountability and Equitable Decision-Making Tool.

Trustee Rupley thanked Ms. Willard for the presentation and shared that one of the areas the Trustees should evaluate is the process that is done on an annual basis to review their own conduct and revising the current document. Trustee Speer shared that the information presented should be adopted for Board Policy and Procedures. Trustee Speer shared that he will develop some written language for proposal and adoption. Trustee Speer shared the tools used during the Presidential Search process can be memorialized. President Edwards shared that it may be helpful to hire an outside firm to conduct an equity review of all policies over the course of the year. Trustee Speer shared that he is representing Clark on the Washington Association of Community and Technical Colleges Diversity Committee. Trustee Jacobsen shared that the Board Handbook needs to be updated from an equity lens. Trustee Bennett shared the recommendations made is something the Board has been working on and needs to continue working on. Chair Strong requested that the Board begin equity work at the next Work Session and to schedule time for the Board to complete the four trainings, once a quarter, with other's in the College and have a debrief after with the Trustees. Chair Strong will begin developing the written language for the Board Equity Statement by the end of fall quarter; the statement will be vetted to ensure there is continuity and synergy.

VIII. **Executive Session**

The Board did not go into Executive Session.

IX. **Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 5pm via Zoom.

X. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned 5:08pm.



Rekah Strong, Chair

Stephanie Weldy
Recorder
Date: August 26, 2020