

Clark College
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Wednesday, September 23, 2020
Via Zoom

In Attendance

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

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President
Bill Belden, Vice President of Student Services
Dr. Sachi Horback, Vice President of Instruction
Kelly Love, Chief Communications Officer
Bob Williamson, Vice President of Administrative Services
Valerie Moreno, Chief Information Officer
Rashida Willard, Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Others

Kimberly Witherspoon, Assistant Attorney General
Tammy Lohr, Manager, Moss Adams
Colleen Rozillis, Director, Moss Adams
Suzanne Southerland, AHE President
Sarah Thorsen, WPEA Co-Chief Steward
Lisa Gibert, CEO, Clark College Foundation
Stephanie Weldy, Recorder

I. Call to Order/Agenda Review

Chair Strong called the meeting to order at 5:01pm.

II. Introductions

President Edwards invited Bill Belden to introduce the ASCC Student Government. Mr. Belden introduced Sarah Gruhler, Director of Student Life. Ms. Gruhler invited the following student's to introduce themselves, their title and what degree they are pursuing at Clark: Josiah Joner, President; Ellie Davidson, Vice President; DeLainey Phelps, Executive Assistant; Mila Smook, Club Coordinator; Lauren Boys, Civics & Sustainability Coordinator.

III. Action Items

- A. #1 – June 24, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes
- B. #2 – July 22, 2020 Board Retreat Session (1) Minutes
- C. #3 – July 28, 2020 Board Retreat Session (2) Minutes

D. #4 – August 7, 2020 Board Special Meeting Minutes

E. #5 – August 7, 2020 Board Retreat Session (3) Minutes

F. #6 - August 26, 2020 Board Special Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Trustee Speer made a motion to approve Agenda Items III A-E as a consent agenda and pull Agenda Item III F for amendment. Trustee Bennett seconded the motion and Agenda Items III A-D unanimously passed and Agenda Item III F was pulled for amendment.

MOTION: Trustee Speer made a motion to amend the August 26 draft minutes section VII by inserting the following statement between paragraph one and paragraph two. Chair Bennett seconded the motion unanimously passed.

“The board acknowledged and indicated appreciation for the quality and intentionality of the recommendations made by VP Willard. Consistent with its statement approved on June 10, 2020 the Board understands and takes seriously its role in the College’s diversity, equity, and inclusion work. A number of possible next steps were discussed aligning with VP Willard’s recommendations, some for immediate action and some pending further assignment.”

MOTION: Trustee Speer made a motion to codify the following action items in the September 23 minutes as it pertains to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Trustee Rupley seconded the motion and the statement unanimously passed.

(a) That Chair Strong, with support from President Edwards or as delegated, lead the development and recommendation of a board equity statement. (end of fall 2020 quarter)

(b) That Vice Chair Bennett and Trustee Speer, with support from President Edwards or as delegated, lead a review and recommend updates to the Clark College Board of Trustees Policies and Procedures Manual to include the equity statement as well as specific language around onboarding, training, accountability of board members, and any other edits as it relates to equity. (Jan 27, 2021 board meeting)

(c) That Trustee Speer, with support from President Edwards or as delegated, recommend updates to College Administrative procedure 610.025 APPOINTMENT PROCEDURES FOR PRESIDENT reflecting best practices from our most recent Presidential Search. (EC approval no later than end of fall 2020 quarter)

(d) That Chair Strong, with support from President Edwards or as delegated, include the Equity Growth Assessment as part of board self-review at future board retreats. (next board retreat)

(e) That Chair Strong and Vice Chair Bennett, with support from President Edwards or as delegated, schedule a quarterly equity training workshop for the board aligned with training being offered to the college (begin fall 2020)

(f) That the Board direct President Edwards or as delegated, to research and act on opportunities to utilize external resources to accelerate progress on College policy review per 200.001 - Administrative Policies and Procedures Process, particularly as it relates to equity and anti-racism. (immediate)

(g) That the full board commits to meaningful attendance at the Northwest Regional Equity Conference. (Feb 24-26, 2021)

IV. Moss Adams Report Presentation

Tammy Lohr from Moss Adams shared a PowerPoint presentation on their recommendations for Clark College. After the presentation, Trustee Speer shared that more conversations needed to be had for cost considerations and change management process considerations. Trustee Strong inquired on what the next steps are in cost comparison for current positions. Ms. Lohr shared that she is working with the Office of Labor Relations and Management and getting quotes in order to analyze service levels, additional implications for staffing and the community. Trustee Rupley shared it is such a big report to pull apart and move forward. Trustee Rupley shared that the top priority is student success and completion. Trustee Jacobsen requested a work session to review.

Dr. Edwards shared that the four priorities are improving student success, financial stability, creating a strong campus climate, and deepening and expanding engagement in the community. Dr. Edwards shared that no decisions have been made regarding the Moss Adams Report and that there will be an opportunity for feedback in order to hear concerns and ideas.

V. Constituent Reports

A. AHE

President Southerland shared AHE feedback regarding the Moss Adams report. President Southerland shared that employees were surprised by the cuts identified and shared that it would have been helpful to the college climate if preliminary information was provided prior to the report being made available. President Southerland shared that there is a lack of understanding and the report caused uncertainty, fear, distrust and panic. President Southerland shared that faculty has ideas for increasing revenue and recommended finding a college systems in Washington State that has been successful at the endeavor and duplicate that system. President Southerland shared that hiring some additional people in Communications and Marketing and utilizing an outside marketing agency for nationwide research and resources. President Southerland shared that classified staff are the employee group that make the least amount of money and do the most amount of work. President Southerland shared that the college community is on a journey of social and racial equity that will be hard work and questioned how outsourcing is going to impact that journey. President Southerland shared that students and administrators need the classified staff.

B. WPEA

Sarah Thorsen updated the Board that the recommendations put forward in the Moss Adams report were quite severe and union busting if implemented. Ms. Thorsen shared that any decisions made by Clark leadership will have state wide ramifications. Ms. Thorsen shared that classified staff get the most bang for the buck, get the least amount of time off and not a part of the decision making process pertaining to cuts. Ms. Thorsen shared that the budget should not be balanced on the classified staff. Ms. Thorsen shared that the report was inconsistent with the findings and exempt positions are being protected. Ms. Thorsen shared that the report creating more chaos, inequity issues and less quality of student services while creating a greater divide between the college and community.

C. Foundation

CEO Lisa Gibert updated the Board on the Foundation's work. CEO Gibert thanked Trustee Speer for identifying an error in the category of the Participant Giving Category for Development and that it should reflect 40%. CEO Gibert shared that the City of Vancouver granted incorporation

rights for U Street (Between Fort Vancouver and Fourth Plain), valued at \$27k. CEO Gibert shared that the City of Ridgefield has been awarded a grant of \$5 million, which will have significant impact on improving Pioneer Street which is located near Boschma Farm. Southwest WA will be starting the Give More 24 campaign and encouraged others to participate in order to meet a \$7k direct match the Foundation has secured. CEO Gibert shared that a full page in the Columbian recognized and welcomed Dr. Edwards to Clark college and highlights her as a featured speaker at Savoring Excellence.

VI. Reports from Board Members

Trustee Bennett shared that she had a meeting with Dr. Horback and Clark Tech Center regarding ways in which to reengage local business and the great work that is happening supporting local businesses. Trustee Bennett shared that she participated in Clark's Opening Day and had the opportunity to attend the breakout sessions.

Trustee Speer shared that he has participated in community equity meetings and attended a Board Budget Committee meeting. Trustee Speer shared that he has joined the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Equity Committee. Trustee Speer shared that the committee has a wide range of different perspectives and is focused on a systemic way of changing things.

Trustee Rupley shared that she participated in Clark's Opening Day and had the opportunity to participate in meetings with local legislators.

Trustee Jacobsen shared that she has participated in monthly meeting with Dr. Edwards and attended an Equity Council workshop led by Ms. Willard.

Chair Strong shared that she has transitioned into her role as Chair and able to connect weekly with Dr. Edwards. Chair Strong shared that she is on the Foundation Executive Committee and that Foundation leadership meets regularly to work together as a group and develop what the trajectory looks like moving forward.

VII. President's Report

A. Enrollment Report

President Edwards shared that we are in day 3 of the academic year and that it was the first time in her academic career that she was not able to greet people in person. Dr. Edwards shared that she appreciated the role of Enrollment Services, Advising and Financial Aid for getting students into their classes.

Bill Belden shared an Enrollment Report with the Trustees and updated the Board that data was going to be shared on the Tableau platform on an institution wide basis.

B. Budget Report

Bob Williamson shared a Budget Report with the Trustees. Mr. Williamson expressed his gratitude for Sabra Sand and Tanya Kerr for being the first college in ctcLink to close out the fiscal year.

VIII. Public Comment

The following individuals wrote a public comment or shared a public comment regarding the Moss Adams Report:

Marla Derrick, Chris Wilkins, Kimberly Sullivan, Janice Taylor, Terri Anderson, Seamus Petrie, Vicki Weese, Angela Dawson, Jeri Kemmer, David Duback, Crystal Rowe, Kent Standford, Bryton Williams, Melissa Favara, Ramona Scott, Cammie Pavesic, Yusufu Kamara, Abbie Blumberg, Sherry Smith, Debra Montez, Courtney Braddock, Melissa Kraman, Carl Sofie, Danille Miller, Julia, Danielle Plessner, Dee Harris, Stacey Mitcham, S. Hatcher, Suanne Sourtherland and Adnan Hamideh.

IX. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is currently scheduled for Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at 5:00pm via Zoom.

X. Executive Session

The Board did not go into executive session.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.



Rekah Strong, Chair

Stephanie Weldy
Recorder
Date: September 23, 2020