

Clark College
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
November 17, 2021
Via Zoom

In Attendance

Jeanne Bennett, Chair
Paul Speer, Vice Chair
Rekah Strong, Trustee
Cristhian Canseco Juarez, Trustee

Absent

None.

Administrators

Dr. Karin Edwards, President
Galina Burley, Executive Vice President of Operations
Dr. Michele Cruse, Vice President of Student Affairs
Dr. Paul Wickline, Vice President of Instruction
Brad Avakian, Vice President of Human Resources
Rashida Willard, Vice President of Diversity, Equity and, Inclusion
Valerie Moreno, Chief Information Officer
Miles Jackson, Interim Associate Vice President of Instruction

Others

Tsering Cornell, Assistant Attorney General
Claudia Carrion, ASCC Vice President
Chris Layfield, WPEA Steward
Suzanne Southerland, AHE President
Lucy Hahan, Clark Student
Stephanie Weldy, Recorder

I. Call to Order/Agenda Review

Chair Bennet called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

II. Action Items

A. October 27, 2021, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Trustee Canseco Juarez motioned to approve Agenda Items II A with a revision to the October 28 minutes indicating that the Public Hearing reflects the words “as amended.” Trustee Speer seconded the motion, and Agenda Items II A unanimously passed.

III. Constituent Reports

A. ASCC

Claudia Carrion gave an ASCC update. Ms. Carrion shared that there are four new student leaders and one position remaining for ASCC. Ms. Carrion introduced the following student leaders: Xander Hawkins, ASCC President; Olivia Volk, ASCC Executive Assistant; Casey Figone, ASCC Student Relations & Promotions Coordinator; Emma Bennett, ASCC Club Coordinator. The Board of Trustees welcomed the new ASCC student leaders and shared that they are looking forward to working with them during the academic year.

B. AHE

Suzanne Southerland gave an update on AHE and highlighted that the faculty are grateful that Clark will be requiring proof of vaccination for winter. Ms. Southerland shared that the AHE is appreciative to those working behind the scenes to ensure that classrooms are safe. Ms. Southerland congratulated Trustee Canseco Juarez for his nomination for the Accomplished Under 40 award.

C. WPEA

Chris Layfield gave an update on WPEA and highlighted a Classified Staff Forum today that addressed communication and messaging concerns regarding transparency. Mr. Layfield shared that the WPEA wants to encourage productive dialogue to avoid rare and costly arbitration hearings. Mr. Layfield shared a recent poll of WPEA members, and one of the primary issues is "Work environment." Mr. Layfield shared that the Classified Staff has been reduced and asked to accomplish the same amount of work with significantly fewer resources. Mr. Layfield shared that the WPEA would like to acknowledge and congratulate the nominees for the 2021 Fall Quarter Classified Staff Excellence Award. Aleksandr Anisimov, Charla Kimball, and Tiffany Saari. As well as the recipient of the award, Denise Rotellini, Secretary Supervisor in the English Department.

D. Foundation

CEO Gibert updated the Foundation and highlighted vital connections and the "Know Me Campaign," which included 250 responses. CEO Gibert shared that the Foundation will be connecting with community partners, such as LULAC. CEO Gibert shared that the Bryant Group is identifying candidates for the Foundation CEO position. CEO Gibert shared that the Foundation Memo of Understanding has passed with the Executive Board, and it anticipates to be ratified with the entire Board on December 7, 2021. CEO Gibert shared that the Gift Acceptance Policy is in the process of being updated (the last Gift Acceptance Policy was revised and ratified in 2009).

The Board of Trustees inquired about workforce opportunities and a position for an Employee Navigator, which will help support this endeavor. CEO Gibert shared that there is a grant matching opportunity that has been secured (for the first year) and is in the process of being confirmed for the second year. The Board of Trustees inquired about the search process for the new CEO and ensured that it was from an equitable lens.

IV. Student Presentation

Dr. Michele Cruse introduced Lucy Hahan, a Clark College student. Ms. Hahan shared her personal story and educational journey. The Trustees thanked Ms. Hahan and shared their appreciation for her presentation.

V. President's Report – President Edwards

President Edwards updated the Board that Clark is applying for a \$1million grant opportunity with Aspen College Excellence Program. President Edwards shared that the Strategic Plan is being developed, which will help lead the work of Clark and determine how resources will be allocated. President Edwards shared a recent meeting with three architectural firm finalists regarding the Boschma Farms campus. President Edwards shared that she expects groundbreaking to begin in June 2022 and a grand opening in June 2024. President Edwards shared that Clark requires student vaccination, and enrollment numbers thus far have not been impacted by that announcement. President Edwards shared that AM Northwest highlighted the McClaskey Culinary Institute. President Edwards shared an NWCCU Conference this week that she will be attending. President Edwards shared that there will be a holiday celebration for Clark employees on December 7, 2021, via Zoom.

VI. Reports from Board Members

Trustee Speer acknowledged Native American Heritage month and shared his appreciation for the cultural celebration hosted by Clark College. Trustee Speer shared his appreciation for the Adult Continuing Learning program. Trustee Speer encouraged others to participate in the Thanksgiving Basket fund to help those families in need during this time of year. Trustee Speer shared that he will be attending the ACT Conference on Friday.

Trustee Strong shared that she has been having regular meetings with President Edwards that focus on the College's next steps. Trustee Strong shared that she and Trustee Speer met with the Bryant Group (recruiter for the Foundation CEO position) and shared what they hope to see within that role. Trustee Strong congratulated Trustee Canseco Juarez for his Accomplished Under 40 nomination.

Trustee Canseco Juarez shared his appreciation for the congratulations regarding the Accomplished Under 40 nomination. Trustee Canseco Juarez thanked the ASCC Student Leadership and their commitment to the College; he is looking forward to working with them over the next academic year. Trustee Canseco Juarez shared that he has been meeting with President Edwards monthly. Trustee Canseco Juarez highlighted the need and commitment for a diverse faculty and student population group at Clark. Trustee Canseco Juarez shared that he participated with a new infinity group, entitled "Trustees of Color," and emphasized the significance and importance of trustees of color to have time to connect and build community.

Chair Bennett shared that she has had weekly one on one meetings with President Edwards. Chair Bennett shared her appreciation for the hard work of Clark employees. Chair Bennett encouraged others to donate to the Thanksgiving Basket fund. Chair Bennett thanked the Penguin Pantry for managing the donations.

VII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VIII. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 5:00 pm via Zoom.

IX. Executive Session

The Board will convene in Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1) at 6:03 pm to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions or litigation or potential litigation. The Executive Session was expected to last until 6:18 pm. At 6:18 pm, there was an announcement that the executive session would extend to 6:28 pm. The Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110 ended at 6:29 pm. The Board took no action during Executive Session. The regular meeting reconvened at 6:29 pm.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm.



Jeanne Bennett, Chair

Stephanie Weldy, Recorder
November 17, 2021