

Clark College  
Minutes of the of the Board of Trustees Retreat  
July 28, 2021  
Clark Tech Center, Room 144

**In Attendance**

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

**Absent**

None.

**Administrators**

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

**Others**

Tsering Cornell, Assistant Attorney General  
Stephanie Weldy, Recorder  
Melissa Williams, Director of Student Equity and Inclusion

**I. Call to Order/Agenda Review**

Chair Strong called the meeting to order at 9:02am.

**II. Ice Breaker**

Chair Strong led the Board of Trustees in an Ice Breaker exercise.

**III. Allyship in Action**

Rashida Willard and Melissa Williams shared a PowerPoint presentation, “Allyship in Action” with the Trustees. The Board discussed a proactive plan in how they can demonstrate allyship as well as be an accomplice. Discussion included, defining Clark’s “brand”, proactively working with K-12 partners and proactively communicating messages regarding ways in which Clark is an ally.

**IV. Executive Session –Performance Review of the President**

The Board will convene in Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1) at 12:31pm for the following purposes: to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment OR to review the performance of a public employee; or for the purpose of evaluating (or reviewing the performance of) the President at this time for approximately 30 minutes. The meeting was extended 15 minutes until 1:30pm. The meeting was extended for 15 minutes until 1:45pm. There was no action during the meeting. At the conclusion of the executive session at 1:45pm the Board reconvened its retreat.

**V. Review of Board Goals and Goal Setting for 2022 – Chair Strong**

The Board of Trustees reviewed their goals from the September 2020 Board meeting. The Board also reviewed a proposed Equity Statement. The Board reviewed a proposed policy change regarding

610.025 (Appointment Procedures for President). Individual Board members will send suggested revisions to Ms. Weldy for a vote during the August Board of Trustees meeting. The Board reported that 80% of the Trustees attended the NW Equity Conference.

The Board discussed the potential of restarting monthly Superintendent meetings with President Edwards. The Board discussed a legislative breakfast in the fall (with the Trustees, President Edwards, and students). The Trustees acknowledged progress and discussed further developing the relationship between the College and the Foundation. The proposed revisions to the Memo of Understanding with the Foundation are also being reviewed.

**VI. Appointment of Board Officers and Committee Assignments – Chair Strong**

The Board of Trustees reviewed the proposed appointment of Board Officers and Committee Assignments. The Board will vote on officers and assignments at the August Board of Trustees meeting.

**VII. Facilitated Discussion – Dr. Andrea Cook**

Dr. Andrea Cook facilitated a conversation with the Board of Trustees regarding assessing the national trends of community colleges, Washington state demographics (K-12, birth rates, adult learners) post-COVID response to the changing needs of students, assessing Clark's challenges and opportunities and how Clark's core themes (academic excellence, social equity, economic vitality, environmental integrity) should connect to the mission statement. Dr. Cook provided an example of Warner Pacific's Strategic Plan, which shows the connection between their mission statement, core themes and strategic initiatives. The attendees of the retreat (Board, Executive Cabinet and CEO of the Foundation) broke out into (4) groups of (3) people to brainstorm a vision/mission statement.

The Board discussed next steps based on the work done today, including an Executive Cabinet retreat, developing a strategic plan and mission statement.

**VIII. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**IX. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is currently scheduled for Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at 5:00pm via Zoom.

**X. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:37pm.



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Chair Strong, Rekah

Stephanie Weldy, Recorder  
July 28, 2021