



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
Montgomery Community College, Rockville, Maryland
February 17, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Trustees of Montgomery Community College met in public session on February 17, 2009, in the Trustee Board Room, Central Administration. The First Vice Chair of the Board called the **Public Hearing on the Proposed FY2010 Operating Budget** to order on motion by Trustee Godwin and seconded by Trustee Crowder. There were no speakers to give testimony on the **Proposed FY2010 Operating Budget**. On motion by Trustee Counihan seconded by Trustee Kaufman, the Public Hearing was adjourned. The regular public meeting was called to order by the First Vice Chair at 7:55pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Trustees Michael C. Lin, 1st Vice Chair, Trustees Steve Kaufman, 2nd Vice Chair, Sylvia Crowder, Gigi Godwin, Gene Counihan, Reggie Felton, Owen Nichols, and Gabriel Spiro
Present Ex-Officio: President and Secretary/Treasurer Brian K. Johnson
Absent: Trustee Roberta Shulman

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Trustee Felton moved to approve the agenda; Trustee Counihan seconded. The motion passed and the agenda was approved by the Board.

IV. MINUTES

Trustee Kaufman moved to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2009 public meeting; Trustee Nichols seconded. The motion passed and the minutes were approved by the Board.

V. COMMENTS PERIOD

There were seven speakers to come before the Board.

1. Mayor Susan Hoffman, City of Rockville, provided testimony on the impact of the College's Tobacco Free Policy on the residents of Princeton Place.
2. Ms. Liz Brandenburg, president of AFSCME, provided testimony on the staff union.
3. Ms. Nicole Arcilla, a student from the Germantown Campus, spoke about her experience as a student at Montgomery College.
4. Professor Ben Nicholson, Montgomery College math professor, provided testimony on the need to keep the bike and pedestrian access area open in the back of the Rockville Campus.
5. Mr. Carl Henn, provided testimony on the access issue of the fence to Princeton Place.
6. Ms. Christine Borger, representing the Princeton Place residents, thanked the Board for its efforts in resolving the problem with the fence.
7. Mr. Theodore Reuther, provided testimony on the gas lines located near Princeton Place.

VI. TRIBUTE AND RECOGNITIONS

Trustee Nichols moved to approve agenda item #VI, the Tribute and Recognitions. Trustee Crowder seconded. The motion passed and the recognitions were approved by the Board.

BR# 09-02-011 Tribute to Dr. Patrick Feeney

BR# 09-02-012 Retirement Recognition of Mr. Ronald Wetteroth

BR# 09-02-013 Retirement Recognition of Mr. Leon D. Woodward

Dr. Charlotte Twombly provided remarks on the life and service of Dr. Patrick Feeney at Montgomery College. She spoke about how the students loved him and how he involved them in his projects. A memory book created by the students was presented to the family. Dr. Johnson read the tribute from the Board. Ms. Cheryl Wagner, a friend, and Miss Emma Feeney, daughter, accepted the tribute and provided brief remarks and thanked the Board for the tribute.

Mr. Wetteroth and Mr. Woodward were not present.

VII. REPORTS

A. President's Report to the Board

Dr. Johnson highlighted his report and commented on what we heard from our student. "Success of College" talks about 20 students who received scholarships from the Board of Trustees. He indicated that the ability to offers scholarships to our students is tremendous.

Dr. Johnson reported that enrollment was up 2.5 percent this fall and 5.5 percent for the spring. He indicated that it cost more to maintain this academic quality. On February 11, students went to Annapolis for Student Advocacy Day and he thanked Trustee Spiro for his efforts. Dr. Johnson provided brief comments on the Maryland Association of Community Colleges Trustee Leadership Conference.

Dr. Johnson thanked Trustee Shulman for hosting a brunch for the Bohanan Commission at her home. He commented on the American Association of Community Colleges and the Association of Community College Trustees National Legislative Summit held in Washington, D.C., February 9-11. He thanked Trustees Shulman and Lin for attending and noted that the bookstore was recognized at the event.

Dr. Johnson reported that the College continues to meet with the County Council and the County Executive and hopefully they will continue to work with us.

Dr. Johnson thanked everyone in the College community for their continued support.

B. Workforce Development & Continuing Education Annual Report

Vice President George Payne provided the Workforce Development & Continuing Education Annual Report. He showed appreciation to the faculty and staff of the unit and indicated that they are a hard working group of individuals. He thanked the individuals involved with campus partnerships and the Board of Trustees for its continuous support.

Trustee Kaufman asked Vice President Payne what he sees as challenges and opportunities. He noted that the maximum for when things settle down is that people return to college, but they have not seen this yet. He indicated that they want to partner with the military, particularly, Walter Reed. They are looking to help military people who are transferring into civilian life. He noted that this year is holding steady and they are having good success with homegrown career path students. Contract training is soft; employers are reluctant to commit right now.

Trustee Felton commended Mr. Payne on his work and asked what other kinds of programs are WD&CE looking at to meet its goals. Mr. Payne noted that adults are returning to the community college and increasing services to adults is key and will continue throughout some time. He noted that contract training will continue. The giant area is adult basic education and there is a tremendous demand and Maryland is ranked 47th. He noted that the country is moving into educational haves and have nots and we need to tie all of these services together.

Trustee Godwin thanked Mr. Payne for his report. She noted that preparing individuals to come to the College to position themselves in the job market is very important. She noted that the College needs to work with federal agencies and we need to look into this for partnership opportunities. She indicated that she would work with the College on this matter in any way that she could.

Trustee Spiro noted that as the College move into expanded programs, how do you get student input? Mr. Payne noted that WD&CE has a very vocal student population and they will let the unit know if a class ended two minutes early. Mr. Payne indicated that WD&CE gets a lot of feedback from students, employers, and faculty.

Dr. Johnson thanked Mr. Payne for his leadership beyond WD&CE and for chairing the Personnel Action Review Team (PART). The College has undertaken a hiring chill and he will review applications and he has put together a small team to assist him with this matter. He indicated that Mr. Payne is an agenda-free person and he tries to realize some cost savings for the College and we appreciate his leadership.

C. TRUSTEE INFORMATION REPORTS

1. Recruitment
2. Graduation Trends FY2008
3. Financial Aid FY2008
4. Personnel Report

Trustee Felton asked about the potential for not forcing students into additional debt. Ms. Melissa Gregory, director of Student Financial Aid, stated that the average debt for our students was \$2500 – \$3000 for students that borrow. The whole point is to keep students off of loans.

Trustee Crowder asked about the decline in associate degrees in career programs. Dr. Robert Lynch, director of the Office of Institutional Research Analysis, noted that transfer programs are increasing and students are graduating at a higher rate. He noted that this was bothersome for the College, but is offset by the transfer students. This situation is true statewide. Transfer students are increasing every year and they transfer before they get their degrees from us. The College has some data, but the four-year institutions populate this database, and the College doesn't get accurate information and it is not complete.

Trustee Spiro indicated that enrollments say that the College is headed downward with non-transferable degrees, and is this in line with WD&CE. Dr. Lynch indicated that he was not so sure about this statement. He shared some information that he received today. Last year's MC students, 5,135 students, transferred to a four-year institution in 49 different states.

D. REPORT ON THE 2009 COMMUNITY COLLEGE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT

Trustee Lin provided a brief report on the National Legislative Summit. He indicated that he and Trustee Shulman attended the Summit along with Mr. Tom Tucker and Dr. Johnson.

Dr. Johnson thanked Ms. Liz Brandenburg for her testimony on behalf of AFSCME.

Dr. Johnson thanked Trustee Lin for the report and shared a few observations from the Summit. He noted that it was very educational for him. The new Secretary of Education gave a presentation and there is a new appreciation for the community college by the Obama administration. Dr. Johnson indicated that we must step up to the plate to help the economy.

VIII. BR# 09-02-014 Personnel Actions Confirmation Report

IX. BR# 09-02-015 Adoption of the FY2010 College Operating Budget

BR# 09-02-016 FY2010 Budget Approval – Other Funds

X. BR# 09-02-017 Sole Source Award of Contract, Professional Consulting Services

On motion by Trustee Nichols, seconded by Trustee Felton, the motion passed and the Board approved and adopted agenda items #VIII - X.

Trustee Kaufman thanked everyone for their work on the budget. He indicated that the Board has had several sessions with Ms. Dimon and Mr. Moore and it has been a work in progress. The scenario that the Board will approve will be the best that we can go to the County with at this time. There are some contingencies to go with if we need to go with them. He commended the president for his steadfast support of these efforts.

Trustee Spiro stated that from the students' perspective, he thanked the Board for its support and for protecting the students.

Dr. Johnson echoed the comments of Trustees Kaufman and Spiro. He indicated that Mr. Moore has done a great job with the budget and thanked him for taking the role as vice president of fiscal and administrative services and for his consistent leadership.

XI. BR# 09-02-018 Sole Source Award of Contract, Enrollment Management International Student Reporting System Software

On motion by Trustee Nichols, seconded by Trustee Crowder, the motion passed and the Board approved and adopted agenda item #XI.

XII. New Business

There was no new business to come before the Board. Dr. Johnson commented on the quilts exhibit postcard that was distributed to the Trustees. He indicated that there are 60 quilts from around the country honoring President Obama.

XIII. Adjournment

In compliance with the Annotated Code of Maryland, Title 10-508, subject to Chapter 655 of the Laws of 1991, the Chair announced that the Board voted to hold an Executive Session February 17, 2009, when one site matter (subsection 3) – Germantown Campus, Holy Cross, Rockville Campus, and Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus updates were discussed; one personnel matter (subsection 1) – Medallion Awards; and one collective bargaining matter (subsection 9) were discussed.

Motion was made to adjourn at 9:06pm.

Roberta F. Shulman
Chair, Board of Trustees

Brian K. Johnson
President and Secretary-Treasurer,
Board of Trustees

Recorder: Arlean B. Graham

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