
March 25, 2014

The Regular Meeting of the Hocking College Board of Trustees was held Tuesday, March 25, 2014, at the Inn at Hocking College, Nelsonville, Ohio.

Administrators attending: Ms. Bonnie Allen-Smith, Dean of Allied Health; Mrs. Laura Alloway, Director of Marketing and Public Relations; Dr. Carl Bridges, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs/Provost; Mr. Ben Dalton, CIO; Dr. Myriah Davis, Vice President of Administrative Services; Dr. Ron Erickson, President; Ms. Gina Fetty, Vice President of Fiscal Services; Mr. Neil Hinton, Dean of Engineering Technologies; Tammy Keith, Dean of Nursing; Mrs. Kensey Love, Director of Institutional Research and Planning; Ms. Jane Lyons, Trio Director; and Ms. Deneene Merchant, Director of Financial Aid.

Additional attendees: staff, and media.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Taulbee called the meeting to order at 6:24 pm.

ROLL CALL

Jestinah McDonald, Board Secretary, called the roll:

Board members present: Gary Edwards, Joseph Ogden, Andrew Stone, Keith Taulbee, Robert Troxel, and Paula Tucker.

Board members absent: Mike Brooks and Mike Budzik.

Members present constitute quorum: Yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Taulbee asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the January 30 and February 20 Regular Meetings and the February 27 Special Meeting. There being none, Trustee Ogden moved, seconded by Trustee Edwards, that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

CORRECTION NUMBERING ERROR FROM FY2008

Chairman Taulbee asked for a motion to approve adding A and B to the two existing resolutions numbered 2008-02 based on information presented during the Committee of the Whole meeting (Addendum 1). Trustee Stone moved, seconded by Trustee Troxel, that the motion be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

TRIO PRESENTATION

Ms. Lyons presented the Board with a handout (Addendum 2) and Power Point presentation regarding the Trio program. She explained that the program currently has a waiting list of students who have applied. Funding for the program has been reduced at the

federal level and Ms. Lyons indicated that she would appreciate the Board's assistance in lobbying for more funding.

FINANCIAL AID PRESENTATION

Ms. Merchant presented the Board with an update on financial aid services (Addendum 3). She outlined some of the changes and improvements that have been made to the processing and communications operations of the department.

Ms. Merchant also reported on upcoming projects such as a Default Management Task Force that will be meeting to address the College's loan default rate. The College's last reported default rate was 31% (government norm is 30%). Since Hocking was slightly over the norm, the College was put on the "watch" list and has been tasked with bringing its rate down and finding out why our students are defaulting more than the national norm. Hocking's current rate is at 22%. Ms. Merchant is considering submitting an appeal to the feds to have the reported rate adjusted since it is currently lower. The College had also contracted with a new third party company that should have monitored the defaults better and she believes part of the issue with the higher rate lies with them.

FACILITIES REPORT

Resolution 2014-07 Sale of Real Estate (Victorian House) was presented to the Board (Addendum 4). Chairman Taulbee moved, seconded by Trustee Ogden, that the resolution be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE REPORT

Trustee Tucker moved that the Board accept the FY2013 audit report as it was presented. Trustee Ogden seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2014-08 Other Fees Increase was presented to the Board (Addendum 5). Trustee Edwards moved, seconded by Trustee Troxel, that the resolution be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2014-09 Tuition Fees Increase was presented to the Board (Addendum 6). Trustee Troxel moved, seconded by Trustee Ogden, that the resolution be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

DEACTIVATION OF ARCHEOLOGY PROGRAM

Dr. Bridges requested that the Board entertain a motion to deactivate the Archeology program. Dr. Bridges reported that enrollment in the program has steadily declined, especially as students move into their second year (retention problem). He stated that the College will continue to serve the students currently enrolled in the program (6 in second year, 3 first year) to get them completed but he doesn't feel that the program serves the needs of the College at this time. Trustee Troxel questioned how the decision to close the program was made. Dr. Bridges indicated that a program review using the current model for the process had been conducted and the program is just not working. There are challenges in recruiting and in retaining students and the numbers over the last 3 - 5 years have been dropping. Trustee Edwards moved, seconded by Trustee Stone, that the archaeology program be deactivated at this time. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Erickson reported that the College had recently learned that the capital bill allocation for renovation of the Inn was given a boost by State Senator Troy Balderson. One million dollars has been added to the College's original \$250,000 request. Dr. Erickson expressed the College's gratitude to Senator Balderson for the increase and stated that additional funding is still needed to get to the \$2.5M estimated renovation budget. He indicated that the College has submitted a request for \$600,000 in funding with \$400,000 in match from the College to the small college fund to help fill the gap. Whether the College receives that additional award or not, it should be within range of being able to complete the project. Small college funding would seal the deal. Dr. Erickson stated that renovation of the facility will continue in one form or another.

Dr. Erickson reported that he had testified to the Legislature on behalf of HB 484 Mid-Biennium Review today and he distributed copies of an editorial from the Akron Beacon Journal (Addendum 7).

Dr. Erickson will be travelling to Perry Camus tomorrow for the monthly Coffee with the President open house event and will attend a Perry County Chamber of Commerce event as well. He is planning to attend an American Association of Community Colleges convention in D.C. in early April.

Dr. Erickson informed the Trustees that commencement ceremonies for the College are planned for May 9 & 10. One ceremony on Friday, May 9, will be for Allied Health and Nursing. The morning ceremony on Saturday, May 10 will be for Natural Resources and the afternoon ceremony on Saturday will be for Engineering, Public Safety, and Hospitality. Dr. Erickson invited all of the Trustees to attend and asked to have at least one Trustee in attendance at each ceremony. Trustees were asked to let Mrs. McDonald know if they could attend and which ceremony.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Taulbee reported that Trustee-elect Tom Johnson will be sworn in at the next Regular Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for May 27 at Perry Campus.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Trustee Taulbee moved, seconded by Trustee Edwards, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Keith Taulbee, Chairman

Jestinah McDonald, Board Secretary