Minutes of the September 18, 2015 Board of Trustees' Special Meeting – Wellesley Hills Campus

Board members present: Sylvia Beville, Amanda Cataldo, Lyris Bauduy-Liautaud, Ken Der, Tom Dretler, Jamie Hoag, Dan Juliani, Tom Peisch, Emmett Price, and Katherine Tonelli.

Staff members present: Yves Salomon-Fernandez, Interim President Elizabeth Blumberg, Dean of Students; Lynn Hunter, Academic Affairs Vice President, Kathleen Kirlies, Vice President for Finance & Administrative Services, Enrollment Management and Student Services; Robin Nelson-Bailey, Vice President of Human Resources, Employee Relations and Compliance & Affirmative Action Officer; Robert O'Connell, Math Faculty; Vincent O'Connell, Campus Police; Shia, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Alumni; and Karen Britton, Executive Assistant; and Deborah Georgopoulos, Staff Associate.

Guest present: Sue Bonaiuto, Foundation Vice Chair; Pat Washington, Foundation Board Member; Jen Perkins, Department of Higher Education.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS: After establishing quorum, Interim Chair Tom Peisch called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

This Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to continue discussion regarding the Presidential Search.

The Trustees discussed the options for appointing a permanent President to the College. A search must be undertaken to fill the position. State guidelines prohibit a sitting president from applying for the position.

Interim President Yves Salomon stated that in the best interests of the College, she will continue as Interim President and see the College through the difficult issues it is currently facing. Tom Dretler expressed appreciation to Dr. Salomon-Ferendandez, and noted that the Interim President has stated her commitment and understands she is in the interim role.

MOTION: Trustee Dretler made a motion to proceed with the search.
The motion was not seconded.

All the Trustees voiced support of Yves Salomon Fernandez, and reluctantly agreed that in light of the issues the College is current facing, the College would be best served by her immediate attention to leases, enrollment, compliance, and morale, and budget.

The Trustees continued to discuss options including:

- Allowing the Interim President to step down in order to apply for the position. Jennifer Perkins from the Department of Higher Education noted there is a pool of retired college presidents who are available to step in as Interim during a search.
- Delaying the search.
- Proceeding with the ACCT contract for a search.
- Voiding the ACCT contract and review the process for establishing a search.
MOTION: Sylvia Beville moves the College initiate a search for the President of Massachusetts Bay Community College. The motion was not seconded.

Trustees continued to discuss the contract for a search. A contract for $35,000 with a potential additional $15,000 for candidate travel has been signed with ACCT. Funds have not been appropriated. In light of the action of the Board to reduce their budget by 50%, the contract should be reconsidered.

MOTION: Trustee Tom Dretler moves that we begin a search for a permanent president as soon as possible; as soon as contract issues meet the Board’s satisfaction; recognizing that Yves Salomon-Fernandez would not be a candidate. Interim Chair Trustee Emmett Price seconded the motion. Eight Trustees approved, one opposed, and one abstained. The Motion passed by a majority vote.

Trustee Emmett Price will Chair the search, Trustee Sylvia Beville will Vice Chair. ACCT indicated a finalist could be presented as early as the first of the year.

Noting that the Trustees do not normally approve contracts, Interim Chair Peisch reported that the contract with ACCT was properly bid, responses properly analyzed, and the contract was properly awarded. Interim Chair Peisch sees no reason to challenge.

Trustee Price noted that the Board did not vote on a budget and funds have not been appropriated. The contract was signed without a discussion. It was suggested that ACCT may not be needed in all three phases of a search: a. Profile; b. Marketing; c. Selection. Search Committee Chair Emmett Price will work with ACCT in an effort to renegotiate the contact to a reduced price.

Emmett Price, Sylvia Beville, Kathleen Kirleis, and Robin Nelson-Bailey will confer to develop the budget.

Trustee Emmett Price moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Lyris Bauduy-Liautaud seconded. Meeting adjourned 5:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Yves Salomon-Fernandez
Interim President

Thomas E. Peisch
Acting Chair

10/27/15