



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 14, 2023

Trustees Attending: Israul Marrero, Vice Chair, Omari Aarons, Portsha Franklin-Gordon, Betty Francisco, Richard O’Bryant, Miriam Ortiz, Anthony Samuels, Sheriece Perry, Kiara Rosario

Also Attending: Interim President Jackie Jenkins-Scott, EVP Joyce Taylor Gibson, AVP Alison Handy, EVP and Special Assistant Marta Rosa, EVP Andy Vidal, Valerie Thornhill-Hudson, Sr. Executive Assistant to the Interim President, Dr. Jeff Van Dreason, Dean of Institutional Assessment

Absent: Steve Tompkins, Chair, Tameka Simmons

Call to Order

In the absence of Chair Tompkins, Vice Chair Marrero called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

I. Welcome

Vice Chair Marrero welcomed and thanked the Trustees and RCC staff for attending the meeting.

II. Chair’s Report/Update

Vice Chair Marrero provided a brief update on the ACCT Annual Conference on October 8 – October 12, 2023. The Trustees who attended appreciated the opportunity to network with other Trustees in higher education. Many conversations focused on presidential issues. Next year, the ACCT conference will be held in Seattle, Washington.

III. Finance Update

Audit: EVP Vidal reported that the FY23 audit is still underway. He had expected to have drafts of the FY23 financials for this meeting. However, the audit firm had a personnel change that impacted the deadline. It is expected that statements will be available by the end of November. Once we have the drafts, they will be sent to the state Comptrollers Office. EVP Vidal hopes to be able to present the drafts to the Board of Trustees at the January 16, 2024, meeting.

FY24 Update: EVP Vidal referred the Trustees to the FY24 budget in their packet. He indicated that we are settling into the new year. The increase in the Fall23 revenue has been included in this report. A positive Spring 24 semester is expected. EVP Vidal will have an updated budget for the Trustees at the March 2024 meeting.

Facilities Update: EVP Vidal reported that the roof work in Buildings 2 and 4 is in the planning stages. Facilities staff plan to do Phase 2 of the Fume Hoods during the winter break. Work to combine studies for the floor, roof, and HVAC is underway at the Reggie. The Dudley House

project is moving along. Three community information sessions have occurred over the last two months. ICON is on track to produce their documents by mid-January 2024.

Security Update: EVP Vidal reported that in an effort to improve the public safety function at RCC, we have transitioned to a new public safety contractor, Allied Universal Security Services, to provide personnel to staff our Public Safety Department. Our new on-site Account Manager for Allied is Mr. Jensen Telfort. Mr. Telfort is a graduate of UMass-Boston and a 17-year veteran of Allied Universal.

Information Technology: EVP Vidal referred to the presentation on October 30, 2023, from CampusWorks which described the proposed upgrade from a Hybrid to Managed Services. EVP Vidal shared the transition plan which is outlined in his report to the Board of Trustees. The contract between RCC and CampusWorks is expected to be in effect and transition to commence on January 1, 2024.

IV. NECHE Update

EVP Taylor Gibson and Dr. Van Dreason, Dean of Institutional Assessment, provided a brief update on NECHE. They referred the Trustees to the Focused Evaluation Visit which was sent to them from the President's office. They indicated that they were not surprised by the findings; and they continue to educate faculty and staff. The College is getting ready for the 10-year comprehensive evaluation.

V. Enrollment Update

AVP Handy provided an enrollment management snapshot for the fall academic years 2022 and 2023. Comparisons were reported on for fall UG headcount and fall undergraduate credits. Fall part time and full-time unduplicated headcounts were shared. AVP Handy provided information relative to RCC students by age for the fall AY 2022 and 2023. Credit bearing courses and modalities and Center for Workforce Development information was provided. AVP Handy updated the Trustees on Mass Reconnect numbers as well.

VI. Presidential Search Update

Trustee Perry gave a brief update on the Presidential Search. She shared that meetings are being set up (internal and external). The consultant firm, Isaacson Miller, is working on the President Profile for the Search Committee's review. The Profile will be posted before the break in December.

VII. 50th Anniversary Update

Ms. Rosa reported on the 50th Anniversary. She indicated that the Health and Wellness forum and Academic Symposium events were successful and well received. The Gala Host Committee Cocktail Reception on October 9, was well attended. The event was held in the new Alumni Room in the Media Center.

VIII. Interim President's Update

Interim President Jenkins-Scott gave a brief update. She introduced Michael Turner, the new Executive Director of the Reggie Lewis Center. A welcome reception is scheduled for the internal and external community to meet Mr. Turner.

RCC is close to an agreement with New Balance. RCC is excited that New Balance will hold their track meet at the Reggie Lewis on March 24, 2024.

RCC has learned that we do not own all of the land around the Dudley House. A portion of the land belongs to the Archdiocese. We are connecting with the Archdiocese regarding this matter.

A meeting was held with BPS Superintendent Skipper, Interim President Jenkins-Scott and RCC staff. It was a lengthy and very productive conversation.

IX. Consent Agenda

1. The Board Minutes for September 19, 2023, will be approved at the January 16, 2024.

X. Public Comment

There were no public comment requests for this meeting.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Board is January 16, 2024, at 6 p.m. Please note that the meeting will be held via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Thornhill-Hudson
Senior Executive Assistant to
Interim President Jackie Jenkins-Scott
Secretary to the Board of Trustees