

MINUTES

COTC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 20, 2020

8:30 a.m.

Skype Meeting

Present from Fiduciary Board: Mr. Steven Cohen, Mr. Andy Crawford, Mr. Bruce Hawkins, Mr. Robert Montagnese, Mr. J. Park Shai, Ms. Cheryl Snyder, Ms. Marion Sutton, Mr. Paul Thompson, Mr. Gordy Yance, Barry Riley, Board Emeritus and Ms. Sarah Wallace, Board Emeritus

Present from the OSUN board: Mr. Chris Meyer

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mr. Rob Montagnese called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and informed the board that notice of this meeting has been given in conformity with Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 22 board meeting. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. Motion passed.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Central Ohio Technical College Board of Trustees approves the minutes from the September 22 board meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS

Mr. Shai made a motion to accept the gifts with appreciation. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Central Ohio Technical College Board of Trustees accepts, with thanks, the following gifts as presented:

Gifts – September

The Elizabeth Barnhart Award for Nursing Excellence	\$ 2,305.00
The COTC Student Emergency Grant	585.00
The Radiologic Science Technology Alumni & Friends Scholarship	520.00
The Science and Technology Building Capital	482.78
The Officer Thomas W. Cottrell, Jr. Award	90.00
The COTC Alumni Scholarship	20.00
The Laverne A. Messimer Memorial Scholarship	2.50

CERTIFICATE OF PAYMENT VOUCHERS

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to approve the following payment voucher. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. Motion passed.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Central Ohio Technical College Board of Trustees acknowledges and approves the following voucher. This approval is considered “Then and Now” certificate per O.R.C.section 3357.10 and 5705.41(d).

Vender	Voucher#	Inv. Date	Amount	Description
SERVPRO	V0197502	08-25-2020	\$ 7,078.25	Emergency Services & Equipment Rental

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Audit/Finance Committee Report

Mr. Thompson reported that on Friday we received conflicting information regarding the federal CARES Act money. David Brillhart announced that we now have conflicting guidance from the department of education that we need to sort through. We plan to provide an update at the November board meeting.

OSUN BOARD REPORT

Chris Meyer, OSUN Advisory Board member provided the following report:

Campus Anti-Racism Initiatives

In a recent joint letter to all faculty, staff and students, Dr. MacDonald and Dr. Berry reaffirmed that Ohio State Newark and COTC do not tolerate racism in any form. They reminded all that combating racism, intolerance and hatred are the personal responsibility of each member of our campus community, and they called on everyone to not be silent, but to speak out when witnessing racial injustice.

Additionally, Dr. MacDonald wrote an [open letter to our local community](#) through the Newark Advocate’s editorial board, which was published last week, in which he shared that in one week this September he received reports of three separate incidents of overt, racial discrimination or harassment against students enrolled at this campus. All three occurred in our community. In his letter, Dr. MacDonald asked all area organizations, including government agencies and businesses, to join him in the goals of dismantling racism, inequity, and injustice.

In working toward these goals, the Ohio State Newark Faculty Assembly’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DEI) has proposed an extensive list of initiatives, some of which the campus is already working to implement.

Public Safety Advisory Committee

With the help of the DEI executive committee and Dr. Parrill, Dr. MacDonald is drafting by-laws for a re-envisioned committee which will replace the campus’s current Public Safety Committee. The new committee will include members from Ohio State Newark and COTC.

Employee Resource Groups (ERGs)

Further, he is also drafting guidelines for employee resource groups (ERGs) and intend to establish funding to support these groups. ERGs will be open to all campus employees, including COTC.

Other DEI initiatives will continue to be refined, vetted with multiple employee groups, and eventually presented to the Ohio State Newark Faculty Assembly for endorsement.

Autumn Semester Enrollment and Budget Update

Autumn semester enrollment is better than expected, as is the Ohio State Newark budget. Ohio State Newark's headcount declined just 2.4% over last year (headcount is 2,873), much less than originally feared; FTE declined only by 3.1%. Such a small decline combined with a cut of less than 5% in state subsidy puts much less stress on the budget than originally anticipated. Furthermore, the university's financial controls helped campus save money during the last fiscal year, leaving us with a surplus of over \$4 million from FY20. That money will help Ohio State Newark recover and gain momentum after the pandemic passes and the university lifts its spending restrictions.

Enrollment Trends and Strategic Plan KPIs

One very exciting data point from autumn enrollment is that minority representation reached an all-time high of 34% and underrepresented minority representation reached an all-time high of 24%. Additionally, first-year retention and four-year graduation rates have both improved, with retention recovering from a dip in 2018

Additionally, as estimated by the university's 2019-20 Graduation Survey, the percentage of students who start at the Newark campus and graduate with \$20,000 or more in debt decreased from 45% in the spring of 2019 to 40% in the spring of 2019.

President Johnson to Visit this Spring

Ohio State President Kristina Johnson is planning to visit each of the regional campuses this spring. The tentative date and time for her visit to the Newark campus is March 23, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Brian Boehmer provided an update on the progress of the John and Mary Alford Center for Science and Technology Building and the Pataskala Campus Renovation.

NEW BUSINESS

Date Change

Mr. Montagnese proposed that our December 22 meeting date be moved to one week earlier, December 15. Mr. Hawkins made a motion to move the meeting to December 15. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion. Motion passed.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Central Ohio Technical College Board of Trustees agrees to change the December board of trustees meeting from December 22, 2020 to December 15, 2020.

COTC Website Redesign Preview

Dr. Berry was excited to introduce Suzanne Bressoud and Kris Read to share information about our COTC website redesign and the work that has been done to-date.

Suzanne talked about the highly collaborative process which included faculty, staff, and students. This is our most important recruitment tool to share information about the college. Kris Read presented an overview of the project refresh to the board. Our website is our digital welcome mat and allows us to tell our story. The site needs to be mobile user friendly. Kris shared statistics of website users. We are looking to re-organize our website to help users find the information more easily and he shared examples of how we are attempting to improve our statistics. Digital Deployment was the selected vendor to assist us in this process. The vendor was one of 18 who bid on this project. They are a national firm who has experience in higher education and long-term support. Five phases in their process (discovery, design, implementation, training & curation). The curation will be completed by December 14 and the go-live will launch on December 21. Kris shared a sample of what the new website will look like.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dr. Berry voiced his frustration about the current budget situation and expressed his appreciation to David Brillhart, Paul Thompson and the team for their work and the enrollment management team and our faculty. We will continue to work for the spring semester. We will continue to monitor at the state level.

Extended Campus front, we continue to move forward with our workforce assessment, and we are halfway through our Coshocton project and our Licking County review. We will be devising a plan from this data learned from each of our communities. We plan to do some governance adjustments and retire our Extended Campus Advisory Boards and focus more on our academic programs. We will expand our reach with our local K-12 groups and develop superintendent summits with a more depth reach.

Dr. Parrill shared information from the full-day Strategic Planning Council meeting which meets twice a year. We had a successful meeting earlier this month. We collect information and conduct a SWOT analysis and share it with the cabinet as we work on our budget. Steve Cohen was pleased by how much we were able to accomplish during the six-hour meeting.

Dr. Berry reported that we continue to keep our eye on the future.

Plan are being discussed for our 50th anniversary next academic year and will have some exciting things to share in the future.

OTHER BUSINESS – No other business

Mr. Montagnese congratulated Sarah Morrison on an Ace of Trades article in the Advocate yesterday.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

Rob Montagnese
Chairman

Steve Cohen
Vice-Chairman

MISSION STATEMENT

To meet the technical education and training needs of students and employers in the area.