Minutes of Meeting

Present at Roll Call: Marikate Murren, Chair
Yanira Aviles, Student Trustee
Vicky Crouse, Trustee
MacArthur Starks, Jr., Trustee
Steve Grande, Trustee
Elizabeth Oleksak-Sposito, Trustee

Entered within few minutes after roll call:
Jynai McDonald, Secretary
Eric Hagopian, Trustee
Jeff Sattler - Trustee

Unable to Attend:
Frank Quigley, Vice Chair
William Johnson, Trustee

Also Present: Dr. John Cook, President

I. Call to Order
Chair, Marikate Murren called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call
Roll called with the following members of the STCC Board of Trustees present: Chair, Marikate Murren, Student Trustee, Yanira Aviles; Trustees: Vicky Crouse, MacArthur Starks, Steve Grande, and Elizabeth Sposito. Six members were present constituting a quorum.
The following Trustees joined the call within 5 minutes of roll call: Jynai McDonald, Secretary; Trustees: Eric Hagopian and Jeff Sattler.

III. Approval of Minutes – Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – February 24, 2020
Trustee Steve Grande moved to approve the minutes from February 24, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting, seconded by Trustee Elizabeth Sposito, and unanimously approved through roll call.
IV. Trustee Committee Reports

Committee on Internal and External Relations – Monday, March 9, 2020,
In the absence of Committee on Internal and External Chair, Frank Quigley, Trustee Chair, Marikate Murren referred to the meeting report to inform the Board of key updates discussed at the meeting. VP Denise Hurst presented updates in the area of Advancement and External Affairs. Topics included Capital campaign, Marketing, and Legislative advocacy in regards to building 20. Interim VP of Student Affairs, Jessica Hill presented a retention report, which helped to identify areas of improvement in regards to student retention. Leaders of the All Unit Congress (AUC), Joris Tauper, Faculty Co-Chair; and Eric Warren, Staff Co-Chair spoke about initiating conversations in an effort to strengthen the AUC’s relationship with STCC’s Board of Trustees.

Chair of the Board, Marikate Murren, called for a motion to approve the March 9, 2020, Committee on Internal and External Relations meeting report. Motion moved by Trustee Eric Hagopian, seconded by Trustee Vicki Crouse, and unanimously approved through roll call.

Committee on Ways and Means – Monday, March 16, 2020
Committee Chair Mac Starks referred to the meeting report to inform the Board of topics discussed at the March 16 Ways and Means meeting. The following items discussed under budget perspectives: Cash flow projections, FY 2020 revenue and spending report through February 2020, and the FY 2020 facilities projects report. Also presented was the FY 2020 revised budget, which includes an increase of 9,959 credits. Total sources of funds will increase by $3,203,290. A Motion to approve the Revised FY 2020 will follow upon approval of meeting report. Committee Chair Starks, called for a motion to approve the March 16, 2020, Committee on Ways and Means meeting report. Motion moved by Trustee Eric Hagopian, seconded by Trustee Elizabeth Sposito, and unanimously approved through roll call.

Motion 2020-05: Revised FY 2020 Budget
Trustee Eric Hagopian moved that the Springfield Technical Community College Board of Trustees, pursuant to the provision of Section 22, Chapter 15A, approve the revised FY 2020 College Spending Plan and the FY 2020 Trust Fund Budgets, and further authorizes the President of the College and/or his designee(s) to take any and all prudent steps necessary to award contracts for capital projects.
Motion was seconded by Trustee Elizabeth Sposito, and unanimously approved through roll call.

V. Old Business - None

VI. New Business – None

VII. President’s Perspective – Dr. John B. Cook
President Cook proceeded to announce that Darcey Kemp was recently hired for the position of Vice President of Student Affairs, starting by the end of April.
Following with updated news in regards to COVID-19 - Today, March 23, Governor Baker issued an emergency order requiring all businesses and organizations that do not provide essential services to close their physical workplaces. STCC is not closing; the college will continue to operate remotely. Access to campus will be limited and with support, over 80% of courses will continue in a remote or alternative mode. STCC is investing on Chromebooks and hotspots for students who need the technology to complete their courses. In regards to communications, there is an alert banner on the landing page of STCC.edu. The alert includes a link to stcc.edu/coronavirus page in which updates and additional information are posted on a regular basis it also directs students to covid19@stcc.edu email address.

Dr. Cook informed that STCC is heavily leveraging Zoom and embracing new technologies when approaching communications. He recently held three separate Zoom meetings, with each school.

Concerns and uncertainties continue to arise – these are being addressed accordingly.

VIII. Chair’s Report – Marikate Murren
Chair Murren thanked President Cook and his leadership team for their approach in these difficult times. Meetings will continue. Please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Cook with any questions.

IX. Date of next Board of Trustees meeting – Monday, April 27, 2020

X. Adjournment – Meeting called to adjourn at 5:44 p.m. moved by Trustee Vicki Crouse, seconded by Trustee Elizabeth Sposito and unanimously approved through roll call.

Marikate Murren
Chair, STCC Board of Trustees