

**SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, April 25, 2022

Zoom/Live Streamed via STCC YouTube Channel

**Minutes of Meeting**

Present: Marikate Murren, Chair  
Jynai McDonald, Vice-Chair  
Elizabeth Oleksak-Sposito, Secretary  
Monique Selden-Riley, Student Trustee  
Maurice Lindsay, Alumni Trustee (joined 3 minutes after roll call)  
Norman Roldan, Trustee  
Jeff Sattler, Trustee  
MacArthur Starks, Jr., Trustee

Unable to attend: Samalid Hogan, Trustee  
William Johnson, Trustee

Also Present: Dr. John B. Cook, President  
Nanette Flores, Executive Assistant to the President & Board Clerk

**I. Call to Order**

Trustee Chair Marikate Murren called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

The following Trustees were present at roll call: Trustee Chair Marikate Murren, Vice Chair Jynai McDonald, Trustee Secretary Elizabeth Sposito, Student Trustee Monique Selden-Riley, Trustee Norman Roldan, and Trustee MacArthur Starks. Seven Trustees present, constituting a quorum.

**III. Approval of Minutes – Board of Trustees Meeting – Monday, March 28, 2022**

Trustee Norman Roldan moved to approve the minutes from the March 28, 2022 Board of Trustees meeting, seconded by Trustee Elizabeth Sposito. After no further discussion, unanimously approved through roll call.

#### **IV. President’s Perspective – Dr. John B. Cook**

Dr. Cook noted that the order of the agenda was inverted from the usual approach to provide context and allow discussion and Q & A in regards to the several motions being presented. Before discussing the topics related to the motions, Dr. Cook shared that CIO Mary Kaselouskas, a Cabinet member, was promoted from Associate Vice President to Vice President and that Dr. Shai Butler was formally appointed from Interim, to now Vice President of Advancement and External Affairs.

##### **a) Program Discontinuation: Context and Q & A**

The Biomedical Engineering Technology and Biotechnology Programs, and the move to discontinue, have been discussed in detail at Internal and External Relations Committee meetings. Supporting detail and rationale are included in the meeting packet. Enrollment into these programs was administratively discontinued due to the persistent low enrollment despite all efforts made to relaunch these programs. Dr. Cook noted that STCC is doing a “teach out” for existing students giving them a pathway to completion.

##### **b) Building 20/School of Health Relocation (News/\$30million)**

The news of STCC being awarded \$30 million for the relocation of the School of Health (total project cost of approximately \$41.5 million) is official, and gives the college and DCAMM a head-start over the summer. Additionally and related good news: last week the Governor filed an economic development bill which includes \$5 million which is likely the formalization of the 2021 economic development bill Building 20/funding (this provides a mechanism for bonding).

##### **c) Budget Preparation: Outlook for May Vote & FY 2023**

The second draft of the FY 2023 is included in tonight’s meeting packet. Our CFO and Finance staff are working on the 3<sup>rd</sup>/Final draft, and we are in excellent shape to seek Trustee approval in May for a final budget.

##### **d) Strategic Planning & External Outlook (CampusWorks)**

This past Friday at an All-College Town Hall, representatives from CampusWorks, the strategic planning consultant were introduced to the college, and they shared a presentation including framing and timetable. The consultants would also be meeting later that day with the 30-member Strategic Planning Task Force, co-led by Dr. Shai Butler and Professor Eileen Cusick. Trustee Elizabeth Sposito is the Trustee Liaison to the Task Force.

## V. Trustee Committee Reports

### a) Committee on Internal and External Relations – April 4, 2022

Internal and External Relations Committee Chair Jynai McDonald referred to the April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting report to highlight some of the topics discussed at the meeting. The Governance Consultant Dr. Eduardo Marti presented a progress report of work being done with the Governance working group, which consists of representatives from all constituents. Dr. Vanessa Hill, Foundation Innovation Fellow, provided an update on the status of developmental mathematics reform. Dr. de Berly led the conversation of the Biomedical Engineering Technology and Biotechnology programs' discontinuation followed by a motion, unanimously approved by Committee members.

Trustees Monique Selden-Riley moved to approve the minutes from the April 4th, 2022 Committee on Internal and External Relations meeting, seconded by Trustee Maurice Lindsay. After no further discussion, unanimously approved through roll call.

The approval of the minutes was followed by the motions moved by the Committee on Internal and External Relations meeting:

#### **[MOTION 2022 -09] – Program Discontinuation**

#### **SUBJECT: Program Discontinuation Approval: Biomedical Engineering Technology and Biotechnology**

Trustee Jynai McDonald moved: that the Springfield Technical Community College Board of Trustees approves discontinuation of the Biomedical Engineering Technology program (Degrees), as well as Biotechnology (Degree and Certificate). Seconded by Trustee Norman Roldan, and unanimously approved through roll call.

#### **[MOTION 2022 -10] – Tenure Recommendations**

Trustee Jynai McDonald moved: That the Springfield Technical Community College Board of Trustees, pursuant to the provision of Section 22 (c), Chapter 15A, approves granting Tenure as listed on Appendix A. Seconded by Trustee Elizabeth Spósito, and unanimously approved through roll call.

**[MOTION 2022 -11] – AIA Statement**

Trustee Jynai McDonald moved: That the Springfield Technical Community College Board of Trustees approves to adopt the framing statement as developed by the Anti-Racism and Inclusion Alliance:

“We, The Springfield Technical Community College Anti-racism and Inclusion Alliance aim to build on our identity as a “Peoples College” and the only career and technical community college leader in the State of Massachusetts, to strive towards strengthening our commitment to the racial, cultural experiences within our community and institution. We honor this commitment at the national, state, local, and institutional levels. At the national level we recognize systemic and institutionalized racism with a specific focus on higher education and the community college environment and the past, present, future racist policies, practices, as being embedded in our society and function as an institution. We realize inequitable policies and practices serve to perpetuate systematic oppression and fosters a variety of problematic challenges faced by our students, faculty, and staff creating barriers to academic success and degree completion, and impedes the progress of The College as a whole.” Seconded by Trustee Norman Roldan, and unanimously approved through roll call.

**b) Committee on Ways and Means – April 11, 2022**

Committee Chair Mac Starks referred to the April 11<sup>th</sup> Ways and Means meeting report to update the Board on topics discussed. The usual FY 2022 financial update and outlook were discussed. The 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of FY 2023 Budget was presented. Also discussed was the key element showing a -3% enrollment decline assumption; upon recommendations of a more conservative percentage point, Dr. Cook noted that the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft will increase the enrollment decline as suggested at the April 11<sup>th</sup> Committee on Ways and Means meeting.

Trustee Jynai McDonald moved to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2022 Committee on Ways and Means meeting, seconded by Trustee Elizabeth Sposito. After no further discussion, Student Trustee Monique Selden-Riley abstained, and remaining seven Trustees approved through roll call.

**VI. Old Business**

**VII. New Business**

**a) WTCC FCC license renewal approved; expiration date of 4/1/2030**

Dr. Cook is pleased to share that the WTCC Radio station license was renewed by the FCC (Federal Communication Commission).

**VIII. Chair's Report – Trustee Marikate Murren**

**a) Presidential Evaluation (DHE requests submission by end of June)**

The annual Presidential evaluation is due in June. Chair Murren will be reaching out to Trustees the process will be managed by the Executive Committee.

Chair Murren reminded Trustees of the June 2<sup>nd</sup> commencement ceremony and of the upcoming pinning ceremonies encouraging all to confirm to attend at least one of the ceremonies.

**IX. Date of Next Board Meeting – Monday, May 23, 2022**

**X. Adjournment (Roll Call)**

Meeting was called to adjourn at 5:34 p.m., moved by Trustee Norman Roldan, seconded by Trustee Elizabeth Sposito, and unanimously approved through roll call.



Marikate Murren  
Chair, STCC Board of Trustees



Elizabeth Oleksak-Sposito  
Secretary, STCC Board of Trustees