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COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

237 W. Kellogg Road, Bellingham

Laidlaw 143

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

2:00 p.m.

- **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Teresa Taylor officially called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Present in addition to the chair were trustees Jeff Fairchild, John Pedlow, Rebecca Johnson, and Wendy Bohlke, constituting a quorum. Others present included President Hiyane-Brown; Nate Langstraat, Vice President for Administrative Services; Steven Thomas, Interim Vice President for Instruction; Kerri Holferty, Interim Vice President of Student Services; Julianna deHaan Rice, Assistant Attorney General; and Rafeeka Kloke, Executive Director for the Office of the President.

Chair Taylor began with a land acknowledgement to recognize and pay respect to the Coast Salish Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories.

ACTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

- Trustee Pedlow moved to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Trustee Johnson and the motion was approved.
- Chair Taylor announced that there is a designated time for public comment on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Consent Agenda
Minutes of January 10, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting and February 7, 2024 Board of Trustees Retreat
Chair Taylor stated: "If there are no objections, items in the consent agenda will be adopted." As there was no objection, these items were adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Chair Taylor called for public comment. There was no public comment.

STRATEGIC CONVERSATION

- **Outreach Updates – Nubia Robles, Director for Outreach & Admission and Katie DeOrio, Director for K12 Partnership**

A PowerPoint presentation was shared with an overview of Outreach activities. Robles provided an update on high schools and community engagement activities to recruit students to WCC; including but not limited to chamber events, placement sessions at high schools; and the new “College 101” program at Ferndale High School.

DeOrio provided an overview of WCC’s Running Start program outreach and marketing activities to increase Running Start enrollment.

- **Safety and Security Updates – Raquel Vernola, Director for Safety & Security**

Vernola shared a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of the state of safety and security across college campuses within our system.

Highlights included common priorities and responsibilities of safety and security on college campus; and top concerns which include impacts of unhoused individuals, increased crime, training; resources and staffing, and needs for facility improvements.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

- WCC Foundation sponsored an Employee Appreciation event on February 14, 2024 to thank all employees at WCC for their hard work.
- President Kathi shared upcoming college events included:
 - International Culture Showcase on February 15, 2024 11:15 – 12:30 in Syre Foyer where some of the upper-level ELL Transitional Learning students will be sharing posters about their home cultures.
 - Professional Development Day on February 20, 2024. She thanked Cynthia Hoskins, Professional Development Coordinator and Chair of the Professional Development Committee and committee members their work in planning the event.
- National Visiting Committee will be meeting with NCyTE, The National Cybersecurity Training and Education Center on March 6-7, 2024 at Ruidoso, New Mexico, to learn about the work and

accomplishments of NCyTE.

- AHECWW completed a site visit from University of Washington representatives on February 8, 2024. President Kathi thanked LaTrisha Lavish, Director for AHECWW and the staff for their work in building training and education networks to improve equity in access to health education and building a healthcare workforce to support rural and underserved communities.
- The Guided Pathways Retreat for Executive Leaders were held at Semiahmoo Resort & Spa on January 29-31, 2024. It was a great opportunity to connect with colleagues from other colleges and exchange ideas.
- President Kathi and presidents from WWU, BTC, and NWIC meet on a regular basis to discuss opportunities for collaborations. The presidents plan to invite cabinet members from their prospective colleges to join the next meeting.
- The 42nd District Legislative Townhall will be held on February 17, 2024, 1-2:30 pm at Horizon Middle School in Ferndale.
- Tenure notebooks are available for trustees review. Tenure recommendations will be presented to the Board at the March meeting.

REPORTS

- Steven Thomas – Vice President for Instruction
Thomas shared that the most recent Stevie Award of Excellence was given to Tresha Dutton, Communication Faculty, for giving colleagues the benefit of the doubt.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- At 3:10 p.m. the meeting was adjourned for a closed session of the Board for approximately thirty-five minutes as provided in RCW 42.31.110, to discuss collective bargaining and a Executive Session immediately after the closed session... to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee...; and to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to litigation or legal risks of a proposed action or current practice the agency has identified when public discussion of the litigation or legal risks is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency...

Chair Taylor announced that action was not anticipated. Guests included President Kathi Hiyane-Brown, Vice Presidents Nate Langstraat, and Assistant Attorney General Juliana deHaan Rice.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 3:45 p.m. and the Board reconvened into open session at 3:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

➤ There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.



Chair of the Board

3/13/2024

Date



President and Secretary of the Board

Date