

MINUTES OF THE MTCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

The McDowell Technical Community College Board of Trustees met in formal session on Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 6:00p.m in the Universal Advanced Manufacturing Bldg. conference room. Meal was provided at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Robert Ayers, Bill Bach, Gwen Conley, Susan English, Randy Hollifield, Nancy Hunter, Ray McKesson, Kay Medford, Donald Ramsey, Gary Stroud, Jim Washburn

Members Absent: Greg Barksdale, Gabriel Allen

Others present: Administrators/Staff: Dr. John Gossett, Dr. Penny Cross, Madalyn Gaito, Ryan Garrison, Ladelle Harmon, Michael Lavender, Stacy Buff

Media: None.

Call to Order – Chairperson

Chairperson Stroud welcomed the board members and called the meeting to order.

Prayer: Kay Medford

Ethics Statement: Chairperson

Chair Stroud read the Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest statement. Nancy Hunter informed the Board that she had received a letter indicating a possible conflict of interest as it pertains to stock and real estate holdings. No other conflicts of interest were noted.

Approval of Minutes – Chairperson

Chair Stroud called for approval of the board minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting on January 9, 2020. Bill Bach asked for clarification on the type of charging stations being recommended by the SGA. The stations will be for charging electronic devices. Ray McKesson made a motion to approve the minutes. Robert Ayers seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Financial Report – VP of Administration and Finance

- VP Garrison presented the county detail budget and the State appropriation budget for the month ended January 31, 2020. (handout) Jim Washburn made a motion to accept the financial report. Randy Hollifield seconded it and the motion passed.
- VP Garrison distributed the 2019 MTCC Financial Audit for review. It was a clean audit with no findings. Robert Ayers made a motion to approve the 2019 Audit. Jim Washburn seconded the motion, a vote was taken and the motion passed.

Building and Grounds Committee Report – Dr. Gossett

Dr. Gossett reported that the Cosmetic Arts building is on schedule.

Personnel Committee Report – Chairperson

No report

Foundation Report – Nancy Hunter

Mrs. Hunter asked Ray McKesson to report on the MTCC Foundation meeting held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020. He shared that the Foundation Board received a copy of the Foundation audit and the financial report as well as an update from Dr. Gossett regarding plans for the Foundation.

President's Report – Dr. Gossett

Sign Language – VP for Learning & Student Services

Dr. Cross provided an update to the discussion about offering Sign Language as a Foreign Language. Kelly McFarland, Dept. Chair for College Transfer, has researched what is involved in offering Sign Language as a class. As there seems to be interest in the class Dr. Cross and her team will be looking for a qualified instructor.

McDowell County Broadband – Dr. Gossett

Dr. Gossett updated the trustees on the McDowell County Broadband Action Team led by Chris Revis and Keith Buchanan. The Team is working to increase broadband availability throughout the county and MTCC is involved because our students and instructors will need increased ability to access online courses moving forward. Madalyn Gaito serves as the MTCC representative on the Team.

Workforce Housing – Dr. Gossett

Housing is a growing issue in McDowell County and several groups are meeting to look at ways to bring more affordable housing to the area. One group is looking at constructing workforce housing on property between the Universal Advanced Manufacturing Building and the railroad tracks. Included in this tract of land is approximately 4 ½ acres belonging to the College. MTCC will not be building housing but would consider structures that would benefit the residents such as a child care center or a gym.

Campus Update – Dr. Gossett

- Donnie Suttles, owner of Big League Camp, has been in contact with Dr. Gossett and several trustees concerning adding athletics to MTCC; specifically baseball and softball. Dr. Gossett has been researching this option and will be meeting with Mr. Suttles to discuss the funding formulas used by the community college system and to gain more clarification on the goals of the group.
- Dr. Gossett introduced Stacy Buff, Dean of Continuing Education and Workforce Development. Mr. Buff will be starting his doctoral program in the summer and would like the opportunity to gain knowledge of how a Board operates.
- McDowell Fire, Rescue and EMS College is scheduled for March 20-22, 2020 at McDowell High School.
- Dr. Gossett attended the kickoff event for My Future NC on Monday, Feb. 10.

- MTCC is working with the Re-Entry Council; helping those who are justice involved get back into the world of work. Education is one key to getting them back on their feet.

Chairman's Report – Chairperson

Other

Announcements

- NCACCT Legislative/Law Seminar is scheduled for March 18-20, 2020 in Raleigh.
- Each trustee must submit a Statement of Economic Interest to the State Ethics Commission no later than April 15, 2020.

Closed Session - §143-318.11 (a) (1) (6)

Dr. Gossett asked that the meeting go in to Closed Session. Dr. Cross was asked to stay for the first order of business.

Ray McKesson moved to go in to Closed Session. Nancy Hunter seconded the motion, a vote was taken and the meeting moved in to Closed Session

Kay Medford moved to go back in to Open Session. Randy Hollifield seconded the motion, a vote was taken and the meeting moved back in to Open Session.

No action was taken.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Gwen Conley moved the meeting be adjourned. Jim Washburn seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

The next regular meeting of the MTCC Board of Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Universal Advanced Manufacturing Bldg. Meal will be provided at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Gossett
Secretary to the Board