Minutes of the Board Meeting of Wednesday, January 21, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 512 was called to order by Chair Hill on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 6:03 p.m. in the Wojcik Conference Center (room 214), 1200 W. Algonquin Road, Palatine, Illinois.

Member Dowell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present:   Members Rita Canning, Greg Dowell, Jim Gallo, Diane Hill, Bill Kelley, Walt Mundt, and Student Member Marisa Andreuccetti.
Absent:   Member Laurie Stone.

Also present:   Kenneth Ender, President; Ronald Ally, EVP Finance and Administrative Services; Patrick Bauer, Chief Information Officer; Bret Bonnstetter, Controller; Laura Brown, Chief Advancement Officer; Phil Burdick, Chief Communications Officer; Maria Coons, Senior Executive to the President; Tom Crylen, Executive Director Facilities Management; Brian Knetl, Associate Provost; Maria Moten, Assistant Provost; Sheila Quirk-Bailey, Chief of Staff; Michelé Robinson, Special Assistant to the President for Diversity and Inclusion; Roger Spayer, Chief Human Resources Officer; Kathy Bruce; Atif Bukhari; Orlando Cabrera; Kimberly Chavis; Kathy Bruce; Kimberly Chavis; Katherine Coy; Melissa Douglas; Amie Grainger; Myles Greenberg; Patricia Hamlen; Rich Johnson; Njambi Kamoche; Judy S. Kaplow; Tom Koch; Rebecca Lake; Paul LeBreck; Steve Liggio; Mukila Maitha; Richard Middleton-Kaplan; Jeremy Moneyhun; Mark Mrozinski; Carolyn Muci; Nan Nefczyk; Judi Nitsch; Keith O'Neill; Evelyn Seiler; Oubria Tronshaw; Daniel Yu.

Guests:  Ken Florey, Robbins Schwartz; Jennifer Berne, citizen; Afreen Bukhari, citizen; Linda Connor, student; Art Douglas, citizen; Tim Harrah, citizen; Zam Kendra Nalubega, student.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Member Canning moved, Member Kelley seconded, approval of the Agenda.

Upon roll call of the Consent Agenda, the vote was as follows:
Ayes:   Members Canning, Dowell, Gallo, Hill, Kelley, Mundt, and Student Member Andreuccetti.
Nays:   None.
Motion carried.
PRESENTATION

Dr. Ender asked Harper College Police Chief Paul LeBreck to conduct the officer pinning ceremony.

Police Academy Graduates

Chief LeBreck thanked the Board and Dr. Ender for providing this opportunity to celebrate the beginnings of two law enforcement careers, Officers Atif Bukhari and Melissa Douglas. He gave a brief description of the history of the police badge and what it represents: the trust of communities and the partnerships officers have within the community, including local first responders, the students, faculty and staff at Harper College, and with loved ones. He gave a brief biography of Atif Bukhari, who started at Harper in 2012 as a Community Service Officer after earning a bachelor’s degree in law enforcement and justice administration from Western Illinois University. Afreen Bukhari pinned the police badge on her husband, Atif.

Bukhari thanked the Board of Trustees and the Harper College Police Department for providing him the opportunity to become a police officer and pursue his dreams of a career in law enforcement. He explained the impact of the events of September 11, 2001 on Muslim Americans set him on this path, and how he hopes his actions will help break the cultural barriers many Muslims continue to face. He is currently working towards a master’s degree in homeland security management and cybersecurity policy with the intentions of one day working for the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Chief LeBreck gave a brief background of Officer Melissa Douglas, who began her law enforcement career as a Community Service Officer with the Harper Police in 2013. Douglas was pinned by her father, Art.

Douglas thanked Harper for the opportunity to serve her community as a police officer. She earned a bachelor’s of arts in criminal justice from Aurora University and was then hired as a Community Service Officer at Harper College, who gave her the opportunity to attend the Police Academy. Throughout the academy and field training, she received strong support from her family, friends and colleagues. She looks forward to serving the Harper College community and thanked her colleagues for their encouragement, expertise, and accepting her as one of their own.

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

Student Member Andreuccetti reported that the Student Government Association met on Friday. Associate Dean of Interdisciplinary Programs Darice Trout explained the new Honors Convocation that will take place in Spring. They also completed surveys on the First Year Seminars. Andreuccetti shared her idea that this would be a great thing to incorporate for high school students. A new student association has started on Harper’s campus, GED Life Won’t Wait. This group will be a support to
students working to obtain their GED in dealing with the personal and academic stress, stresses the value of continuing their education by attending Harper College after passing their GED exam, and informs the general public about the benefits of the GED program. She stated she would be in attendance on Friday for the grand opening of the Career and Technical Education Center.

FACULTY SENATE

There was no Faculty Senate President Report.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Ender reminded the Board about the strategic plan for International Studies programs that was presented about 15 months ago. This presentation is an update on that plan and highlights some of those activities.

International Studies and Curriculum Infusion

Associate Provost Knetl stated that Harper provides multiple opportunities for students to prepare them to not only compete in a global society, but to lead in a global society. He asked English Professor Richard Johnson and Geography Instructor Mukila Maitha to talk about Harper’s internationalization program that infuses global studies into the classroom.

Johnson introduced the members of the team who were able to make it to the meeting: Mukila Maitha from the Geography Department, Richard Middleton-Kaplan from the English Department, Judi Nitsch from the English Department, Judy Kaplow from Humanities, and Patricia Hamlen from Anthropology. He also introduced two students, Zam Kendra Nalubega and Linda Connor, who would be sharing their class experiences. Harper’s internationalization efforts on campus have been guided by this internationalization plan, and the hallmark of that plan is the idea of creating a three-year strategic regional focus that would govern all the activities during this period. Africa was chosen as the first regional area of focus through academic year 2017. This cycle includes the Faculty International Field Seminar the first summer, followed by a number of curriculum infusion projects in the fall and then highlighting student work in the spring of that year. The second year includes a faculty exchange of some kind, possibly a Fulbright Scholar Residence or some other visiting scholarly exchange, and the third year is a student study abroad experience tied to a credit bearing college course. This fall 20 classes enrolling 455 students were infused with material that came directly out of the faculty experience. Additional outcomes from fall include student presentations, lecture series, curriculum infusion workshop, a peace building series, and a human rights expo engaging 432 individuals, primarily students.

Maitha, co-leader and primary instructor of the faculty development program, explained that the purpose of the Faculty
International Seminar is to ensure that the faculty have the tools to prepare their students for careers in the global 21st Century. The program had two components: the local component and the field study. Before the field study, the faculty took a course on best practices in international curriculum infusion, developed classroom project proposals, studied how to communicate across cultural boundaries, and received an overview of the history and geography of the East African region. Enrichment experiences included visiting the Illinois Holocaust Museum which had a special exhibit commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Rwandan genocide, hosting Rwandan film maker Emmanuel Habimana for a lecture and film screening which resulted in recognition by the Rwandan government during their Kwibuka 20 commemoration, and an Uganda Diaspora Panel during with participants had a chance to interact with Rwandan and Ugandan professionals currently living in Illinois and the Uganda general consul. The field study in Africa had three areas of focus: institutional relationships, faculty partnerships, and also thematic explorations to help faculty members get the materials they needed to infuse into their courses. In building relationships for Harper, they visited Makerere University and Mbarara University of Science and Technology, and because Harper focuses on the first two years of undergraduate study, this is a unique opportunity for university partnership. Each faculty member who travelled to East Africa was partnered with a colleague or two in their discipline which resulted in many project ideas, including one in which a Harper faculty member will be working with a Ugandan faculty member to have their classes collaborate through videoconferencing. The region was also explored by themes, such as conservation, organization, and culture.

Middleton-Kaplan taught a learning communities course with Professor Leslie Hess about American perceptions of the Holocaust last semester. Because of the Teaching Africa Today Field Based Seminar, they were able to make the material relevant and internationally applicable by infusing readings, films and experiences from Rwanda and Uganda. The course was able to explore 8 common warning signs and stages of genocide. In viewing Hotel Rwanda and Schindler’s List alongside each other revealed similar portrayals if Oskar Schindler and Paul Rusesabagina. By studying international responses, students recognized common elements in the international communities’ failures to intervene and learned about the mechanisms now available and formed in response to the Holocaust, such as the UN Peace Keeping Forces and the International Criminal Court, which strengthened their own resolve to speak out when they know of massive human rights violations.

Zam Kendra Nalubega shared her experience as a student in Middleton-Kaplan’s course last semester. Learning about the
commonalities between the Rwandan genocide and the Holocaust has broadened her world view. This was personal for her; her mother is from Rwanda and her father is from Uganda, and they were witness to the genocide and atrocities 20 years ago in those countries. Understanding this part of their lives has enriched her life. As a leader for Black Student Union, she used what she learned in this class to engage in projects that encourage helping others and speaking out on issues. She thanked the teachers for taking the time to go to Rwanda and Uganda and sharing what they learned with the students.

Nitsch taught an infused Non-Western Literature course with what she learned in the faculty experience. She emphasized the resources that were opened up to her in Uganda had how she was able to shape a class that she felt confident reflected the actual literary experiences and cultural experiences she discovered. She is also working with the Harper Library on acquiring these titles for the Harper collection which would be an impressive resource for Anglophone fiction from Uganda. She enjoyed the experience of crafting the course.

Connor, as a student in Nitsch’s course, found that many things she knew in parts came together through the course work and provided meaning to what she knew. Having memorized the countries of Africa in fourth grade in 1960, to discover their names had changed by the time she reached high school, it was not until this course that she made the post-colonization connections. She understood the effects of western colonization and the struggles those countries had to achieve their independence and the correlations to America’s struggles for independence. This class opened up for her a new dimension of understanding by exposing the post-colonial condition that persists to this day, and illuminated that conventional western history books don’t credit the roles of women and the importance of women in their own history. This non-western lit class, which focused on meaningful themes abundantly infused with African culture and told from the perspectives beyond the typical history book, provided a significant context for students that may inform their views forever. She thanked Dr. Nitsch for bringing that rich perspective directly from her east African field work and assigning to that knowledge an appropriately higher value than she had ever been exposed to before, and made this class a transformative experience.

Johnson thanked the students for their testimonies and referred the Board to the handouts for links and data about the program.

Dr. Ender continued with a video (shown on WGN news) of a Harper student who was invited to the State of the Union Address by Congresswoman Duckworth, emphasizing what the federal free community college program could mean to students like Homira
Wardak. It discussed the One Million Degrees program which is helping Wardak while her mother is deployed overseas, and through which Dean Kenya Ayers is Wardak’s coach and mentor.

He expressed gratitude for the work of Facilities Management, Information Technology, all of the faculty and staff in the career and technology area who did in six weeks what should have taken 12 weeks to accomplish, moving the programs in D Building into H Building. The enrollment report shows Harper up 3 percent in headcount, and down 1 percent in full-time enrollments. The Strategic Enrollment Management Task Force has submitted their report and recommendations. These will be considered through the budget process and the operating plan for the next year. He then introduced Oubria Tronshaw, Harper’s Faculty Fellow in English, who comes from Chicago State University. Harper is now doing a national solicitation to recruit five more Faculty Fellows for next year. He introduced Dr. Jennifer Berne as the new Dean of Liberal Arts, who was previously with Northern Illinois University. He finished his report reminding everyone Governor Rauner would be on campus Friday for the grand opening of the Career and Technical Center.

HARPER EMPLOYEE COMMENTS

There were no employee comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Member Dowell moved, Member Mundt seconded, approval of the minutes for December 10, 2014 Committee of the Whole meeting, December 17, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting; bills payable; payroll for November 28, 2014, December 12, 2014; estimated payroll for December 26, 2014; bid awards; requests for proposal; purchase orders; personnel actions; monthly financial statements; Board committee and liaison reports; grants and gifts status report; summary report of items purchased from state contracts, consortiums or cooperatives; as outlined in Exhibits X-A.1 through X-B-4 (attached to the minutes in the Board of Trustees Official Book of Minutes).

Fund Expenditures Accounts Payable & Tuition Refunds $5,076,409.40

The payroll of November 28, 2014 in the amount of $2,080,269.70; December 12, 2014 in the amount of $2,037,299.11; and the estimated payroll of December 26, 2014 in the amount of $2,058,784.41.

Bid Approvals

There were no bid approvals.

Request for Proposals

There were no requests for proposals.
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Purchase Orders
There were no purchase orders

Personnel Actions

Faculty Appointment
Lisa Smith, Instructor, Career and Technical Programs, 01/07/15, $51,436/year

Supervisory/Management Appointment
Sue Skora, Registrar, Registrar’s Office, 12/01/14, $98,252/year

Professional/Technical Appointment
Nikol Gerdzunas, Desktop Integration Analyst, Information Technology/Client Services, 12/29/14, $49,643/year

Classified Staff Appointments
Lindsey Berbeka, Financial Aid Assistant, Office of Student Financial Assistance, 01/26/15, $38,025/year
Shannon Nugent, Project Success Assistant, P/T, Student Development, 01/05/15, $30,160/year
Michele Ottenfeld, Purchasing Assistant, Purchasing, 01/05/15, $42,900/year
Jan Thomas, Testing Center Coordinator, Assessment Center, 12/15/14, $40,560/year
Joan Weigold, Testing Assistant, Assessment Center, 12/15/14, $22,620/year

Harper #512 IEA-NEA Appointment
Juan Mis, Custodian, Operations Services, 01/12/15, $19,136/year

Administrator Separation
Ashley Knight, Dean, Student Affairs, 01/16/15, 8 years 4 months

Faculty Separation
Jacques Krikorian, Instructor, Career and Technical Programs, 12/26/14, 1 year 4 months

Supervisory/Management Separations
Evelina Grebenarova, Evening/Weekend Supervisor, P/T, Tutoring Center, 12/19/14, 2 years
Brett Chapman, Database Manager, Advancement/Foundation, 01/19/15, 1 year 11 months

Professional/Technical Separations
Gerald Davenport, Lab Technician, P/T, Math and Science, 01/15/15, 7 months
Rita Kreutzer, Chemistry Lab Technician I, P/T, Math and Science, 12/15/14, 8 months
Kelly Peleckas, Program Leader, P/T, Continuing Education, 12/31/14, 3 years
Classified Staff Separations
Eileen Swat, Receptionist, P/T, Assessment Center, 12/09/14, 1 week
Cari Schoonover, Massage Clinic Assistant, P/T, Continuing Education, 12/19/14, 2 years 7 months

Harper #512 IEA-NEA Separations
Edward Forman, Groundskeeper, Roads and Grounds, 12/12/14, 5 months
Zachary Wielontek, Custodian, Operations Services, 12/12/14, n 12 days

Upon roll call of the Consent Agenda for Approval, the vote was as follows:
Ayes: Members Canning, Dowell, Gallo, Hill, Kelley, Mundt, and Student Member Andreuccetti.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

Financial Statements Review of monthly financial statement as outlined in Exhibit X-B.1.

Board Committee and Liaison Reports Foundation Report: Member Canning announced that 180 people attended the Economic Update and Outlook Breakfast that morning with Jack Ablin. And the Foundation Board welcomed new Board member Kelley Clancy from Alexian Brothers and an alumna of Harper. She has been a great partner to Harper and will be a great addition to the Board.

ICCTA Liaison: Member Kelley reported that he participated in a preliminary meeting to discuss the possibility of developing a community college caucus in the general assemblies, and will update the Board as that develops. In a few weeks he will be travelling to Washington DC for the ACCT National Legislative Summit with Student Trustee Andreuccetti.

Grants and Gifts Status Report Current status of operational public and private grants to the College, and status of cash donations and in-kind gifts to the Educational Foundation, as outlined in Exhibit X-B.3.


NEW BUSINESS Public Bond Issue Notification Act (BINA) Hearing for Issuance of
Member Kelley moved, Member Canning seconded, to conduct the public BINA Hearing at 6:45 p.m. which is necessary for the issuance of funding bonds in the amount not to exceed
Funding Bonds

$5,200,000, as outlined in Exhibit XI-A (attached to the minutes in the Board of Trustees’ Official Book of Minutes).

Upon roll call, the vote was as follows:
Ayes: Members Canning, Dowell, Gallo, Hill, Kelley, Mundt, and Student Member Andreuccetti.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

Chair Hill stated there were no written comments submitted. She asked if anyone would like to offer oral testimony. There was none. Member Kelley moved, Member Dowell seconded, to adjourn the hearing and return to the regular Board meeting at 6:47 p.m. In a voice vote, the motion carried.

Upon roll call, the vote to issue the limited tax bonds not to exceed $5,200,000 as funding bonds to pay for campus capital improvements, was as follows:
Ayes: Members Canning, Dowell, Gallo, Hill, Kelley, Mundt, and Student Member Andreuccetti
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
BY CHAIR
Communications There were no communications.

Calendar Dates Calendar dates are printed on the Agenda for Board information. The Committee of the Whole Meeting will be Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in W216. The next Board of Trustees Meeting will be Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in W214 of Wojcik Conference Center.

OTHER BUSINESS Member Kelley moved, Member Gallo seconded, to adjourn to closed session at 6:48 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue.

In a voice vote, the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT Member Kelley moved, Member Canning seconded, to adjourn the regular Board meeting.

In a voice vote, the motion carried at 7:10 p.m.

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Chair    Secretary