

COLUMBUS STATE

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Delaware Campus, 5100 Cornerstone Drive
Moeller Hall Rooms 111-112
Thursday, May 25, 2023 | 6:00 PM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS

James Fowler, Chair
Stephanie Green, Vice Chair
Corrine Burger, Immediate Past-Chair
John Ammendola, Trustee
Sandy Doyle-Ahern, Trustee
R. Anthony Joseph, Esq., Trustee
Terri Meldrum, Esq., Trustee
Jerome Revish, Trustee
Rick Ritzler, Trustee

CALL TO ORDER

The Columbus State Community College Board of Trustees meeting was held on Thursday, May 25, 2023, in Delaware Campus, Moeller Hall, Rooms 111-112. The meeting was called to order by Chair James Fowler at 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

- James Fowler
- Stephanie Green (Virtual)
- Corrine Burger
- Sandy Doyle-Ahern
- R. Anthony Joseph, Esq.
- Terri Meldrum, Esq.
- Jerome Revish
- Rick Ritzler

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

President David Harrison advised that the record should show that notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with provisions of Section 121.22(F) of the Ohio Revised Code.

OPENING REMARKS FROM CHAIR FOWLER

Chair Fowler announced that Vice Chair Green would be leaving the Board because she had accepted a professional opportunity in Florida. Chair Fowler congratulated Vice Chair Green and thanked her for her service and leadership on the Board.

Chair Fowler also recognized

- The collective bargaining team for their work to negotiate a new contract between the college and the Columbus State Education Association.
- the Workday team for the successful implementation of the Human Resources and Finance systems.
- Dr. Rebecca Butler and Trustee Corrine Burger, who were honored by *Columbus Business First* as part of the first class of Women of Influence Award winners.

OPENING REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT HARRISON

President Harrison thanked collective bargaining teams from the college and CSEA for their collaborative approach through the bargaining process. President Harrison asked the CSEA and bargaining team members to stand to be recognized.

President Harrison asked Dr. Terrence Brooks, Senior Director of Student Life, to present the student guest speaker, Omar El-Shurafa, who has taken classes at both the Delaware and Columbus campuses. He has served as a student ambassador and plans to continue his education at The Ohio State University in pre-med.

President Harrison introduced Dr. Tina Diggs, Dean of Delaware Campus and the Regional Learning Centers, and thanked her campus for hosting this Board meeting. Dr. Diggs shared several highlights, including work to cultivate relationships between the college and community organizations, including the Delaware Career Center.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Meldrum moved, Member Ritzler seconded, that the March 23, 2023 minutes be approved, as presented.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Members Doyle-Ahern, Fowler, Green, Joseph, Meldrum, Revish, and Ritzler

NAYS: None

ABSTAINS: Member Burger

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Fowler shared the consent agenda items, which were discussed at the May 19, 2023, Committee of the Whole meeting:

- Tenure Appointments and First Promotion in Rank
- Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2024
- Tuition Rate Adjustments for FY24 and FY25
- Construction Contract: Moeller Hall Boiler and Chiller Replacement
- Revisions to Policy 3-01, Employee Definitions
- Revisions to Policy 3-43, Discrimination/Harassment/Retaliation
- Revision to 2023 Dates for Committee of the Whole and Board of Trustees Meetings

Trustees declined to hold any further discussion.

Member Burger moved, Member Doyle-Ahern seconded that the consent agenda be approved, as presented.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Members Burger, Doyle-Ahern, Fowler, Green, Joseph, Meldrum, Revish, and Ritzler

NAYS: None

ABSTAINS: None

ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

This resolution establishes the required appropriation for the Bond Retirement Fund to meet debt service obligations for fiscal year 2024. This topic was discussed at the May 19, 2023, Committee of the Whole meeting but required a separate vote for reporting purposes.

Member Doyle-Ahern moved, Member Meldrum seconded that annual appropriation resolution for fiscal year 2024 be approved, as presented.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Members Burger, Doyle-Ahern, Fowler, Green, Joseph, Meldrum, Revish, and Ritzler

NAYS: None

ABSTAINS: None

PROPERTY ACQUISITION

President Harrison presented context about the potential acquisition of 136 N. Grant Avenue and 360 & 374 E. Long Street in Columbus.

President Harrison shared that Columbus State currently owns about 70% of the block where the property under consideration is located. The block is bounded by Cleveland Avenue, Grant Street, Long Street and Spring Street. President Harrison noted that the College had negotiated a purchase agreement, which provides time for a comprehensive series of due diligence assessments to ensure the appropriateness of the acquisition. He asked General Counsel Charles Noble to provide more context.

Mr. Noble said the College had negotiated a \$2.7 million purchase agreement for the three parcels, a price that has been supported by two separate appraisals. He noted that the purchase includes a number of contingencies, including approval by both the college's Board of Trustees and the state Controlling Board.

Mr. Noble said the due diligence process included environmental assessments; title and survey work; and legal reviews, as well as an assessment of the regulatory and code-related evaluations of the current and long-term use of the property. He said these assessments have added several important considerations for the Board.

Most limiting, the three-story building at the southwest corner of the block was listed on the Columbus Register of Historic Properties in 2015. Mr. Noble said that the College has been informed that, according to City Ordinance, it could not demolish or redevelop this historic portion of the site without the approval of multiple Downtown Columbus review commissions. Therefore, he said, the historic designation creates significant limitations and risks on the College's ability to redevelop this site in the future. (The single-story mercantile building on the rest of the site does not carry the historic designation.)

Mr. Noble said the College has explored the opportunity to adapt the use of the existing historic residential structure for purposes such as swing space, storage or other activities. However, assessments performed by the College's consultants have determined that required renovations for code compliance would likely cost at least \$2.3 million.

Member Doyle-Ahern moved, Member Burger seconded that the Board consider the proposed Board Action as presented.

During Board discussion, Chair Fowler asked Trustee Sandy Doyle-Ahern to share any insights given her expertise and experience. Ms. Doyle-Ahern applauded the College's due diligence process. She said that, given the historic designation on the corner building and costs to renovate it, the College would face significant risks. She therefore recommended that the Board should not move forward with the property acquisition.

There was no further discussion.

Before the vote, Chair Fowler noted for clarity that an aye vote would support the property acquisition and a nay vote would stop the property acquisition.

A vote was taken, which the resulted in:

AYES: None

NAYS: Members Burger, Doyle-Ahern, Fowler, Green, Joseph, Meldrum, Revish,
and Ritzler

ABSTAINS: None

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2023 (INFORMATION ONLY)

This item was presented to the Board for information purposes only.

PERSONNEL INFORMATION ITEMS

This item was presented to the Board for information purposes only.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Harrison shared several recent highlights with the help of members of the Columbus State leadership team:

- **Commencement:** President Harrison expressed appreciation for all those who participated and helped to celebrate commencement, which was held on May 12, 2023. Columbus State had more than 1,175 graduates with associate degrees, 1,000 students completing certificates, 55 College Credit Plus students earning college degrees before their K-12 diploma, and two Columbus Promise students, who graduated after attending the college for one year.
- **Women of Influence Honorees:** President Harrison celebrated the selection of Dr. Rebecca Butler and Trustee Corrine Burger as part of *Columbus Business First's* Women of Influence Award winners. Dr. Butler is being honored as a nonprofit leader, and Trustee Burger is being honored as a community champion.
- **Top Workplaces:** Dr. Harrison congratulated Trustee Ammendola and Trustee Doyle-Ahern, whose businesses (Grange and EMH&T, respectively) were recognized in *Columbus CEO's* Top Workplaces of 2023.
- **Education Secretary Cardona Visit:** President Harrison shared highlights, including a video, from the visit by Miguel Cardona, U.S. Secretary of Education, to Columbus State in April. Secretary Cardona touted the college's role as a workforce development leader during his visit, which was widely covered in local media.
- **Columbus Workforce Hub:** On May 16, 2023, the White House announced that Columbus had been named one of five workforce hubs nationally. Columbus State is the anchor institution for the local hub. The region was declared a workforce hub in part

because it has emerged as a center of investment across a variety of industries — including in semiconductor manufacturing, clean energy, and transportation.

- **National Science Foundation:** The National Science Foundation will conduct a site visit on June 13, 2023 as part of a grant application to create a National Information Technology Innovation Center. Lawrence McWherter, assistant professor – information systems technology, will serve as principal investigator. The center would be in partnership with Collin College (TX), Lone Star College (TX), Maricopa Community College System (AZ), and Sinclair Community College (Dayton, OH).

Dr. Rebecca Butler, executive vice president, provided an overview of the Strategic Plan renewal process. Dr. Butler shared key focal points for the 2023 renewal, which includes pillars focused on student success, workforce development, community impact and our people. As part of this work, the College is also updating its values to include Equity and revise the existing values relating to Belonging and Continuous Learning. The plan is expected to be finalized by the fall.

As part of the strategic plan discussion, Allen Kraus, vice president of enrollment management and marketing & communications, provided an update regarding the college’s enrollment growth strategies through 2025. These include strategic areas of focus to grow enrollment, including Columbus Promise, College Credit Plus, Basic English to Credit Program, information technology, healthcare, semiconductor and EV programs.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items to bring before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Fowler indicated Trustee Meldrum needed to step down from her role as a board appointee to the Columbus State Community Partners (CSCP) board. He recommended that Trustee Doyle-Ahern be appointed to the CSCP board in her place.

Member Ritzler moved, Member Joseph seconded that Trustee Doyle-Ahern be appointed to the Columbus State Community Partners board, as presented.

A vote was taken, which resulted in:

AYES: Members Burger, Doyle-Ahern, Fowler, Green, Joseph, Meldrum, Revish, and Ritzler

NAYS: None

ABSTAINS: None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

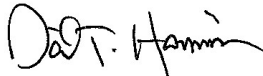
No public participation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was held.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.



David T. Harrison, Ph.D.
Secretary, Board of Trustees