



**Ratified at December 16, 2020 meeting**

**Board of Trustees Meeting  
November 18, 2020**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Westchester Community College held on Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at 3 PM via zoom video conference.

**Trustees Present:**

Hon. John Nonna, Chairperson, Dr. LeRoy Mitchell, Vice-Chairperson, Hon. Andrew Spano, Vice-Chairperson, Robin Bikkal, Esq., Toni Cox-Burns, Sue Gerry, Dr. Norman Jacknis, Estefany Palencia, Deborah Raizes, Dr. Gregory Robeson Smith, and Yolanda Howell, Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

**Trustees Excused:**

None

**Cabinet Members Present:**

Dr. Belinda S. Miles, President, Dr. Vanessa Morest, Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs, Dr. Shawn Brown, Chief of Staff and Vice President of Strategic Operations, Brian Murphy, Vice President and Dean of Administrative Services, Eve Larner, Vice President and Dean, External Affairs, Executive Director, WCC Foundation, Anthony Scordino, Vice President, Information Technology, Tere Wisell, Vice President and Dean, Continuing Education and Workforce Development, & Student Access, Involvement, & Success.

**Call to Order**

Chairperson John Nonna called the meeting to order.

**Ratification of Minutes**

Trustee Raizes made a motion seconded by Trustee Jacknis to ratify the minutes of the October 21, 2020 Board meeting. The motion passed.

**INFORMATION AND DECISION**

**A. President's Report**

Dr. Belinda S. Miles reported:

President Miles gave updates on the following:

Center for Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity.

Mr. Bob Wiener has been one of our most generous scholarship donors over the years. In addition to his \$200,000 annual scholarships, he has made an extraordinary grant of \$1 million to name the College's first Center of Excellence in Cybersecurity.

Last week, Professor John Watkins and team created a virtual event so that Mr. Wiener could meet the first cohort of Wiener Cyber Scholars, top performing students in the Cybersecurity program.

PTK Induction

WCC's Alpha Iota Omicron chapter has 364 new members and celebrated its Fall Induction Ceremony last week.

Our chapter was honored with 3 awards at the 2020 Phi Theta Kappa Annual Convention: Distinguished College Project; Distinguished Advisor- Tiago Machado; and Distinguished Chapter Officer- Brandon Fernandez.

Fall 2020 College Project was focused on promoting voter registration, the history of voting rights, and voter suppression.

Current projects include: Children's Literacy project in collaboration with the Art Club and Creative Writing Club; Veteran Support Project which includes paracord bracelets to send to active military.

Community Engagement

Business Council of Westchester

I will be taking part in the BCW's KeyBank Speaker Series: Education from a SUNY Perspective During COVID-19. Co-Panelists: Jim Malatras, SUNY Chancellor; Dr. Milagros Peña, President, Purchase College

Metallica Event

*Metallica Scholars*

The heavy metal rock band has given us a \$100,000 grant to help career and technical education students pay for their professional certifications. There are about 100 students involved in this effort.

This past weekend the band, who is very generous through it's *All Within My Hands Foundation*, did a virtual acoustic concert fundraiser to support its initiatives in food insecurity, community college education, and disaster relief.

Our guest presenter this month is Mr. Jason Franky the Director of Student Financial Services at Westchester Community College. Mr. Franky will give a brief presentation regarding Student Financial Services.

## **B. Board Chair's Report**

Trustee Nonna reported:

These are challenging times for us. I took a look back at the Mission Statement for the college to see where we were and how we are doing.

### Westchester Community College Mission Statement

*Westchester Community College provides accessible, high quality and affordable education to meet the needs of our diverse community. We are committed to student success, academic excellence, workforce development, economic development, and lifelong learning.*

In these conditions of COVID we are challenged to meet all those goals. From what we have seen the administration, cabinet, faculty, and staff are all achieving the mission.

### COVID

There has been a spike in COVID cases in Westchester County. We just have to continue to adhere to the rules.

### Scholarship Ceremony

Looking forward to attending on December 3.

## **C. Committees**

### Governance

Trustee Spano reported:

The Governance committee had discussion on the following topics.

### NYCCT

- Executive Board meeting is taking place tomorrow
- Trustee Mitchell gave a report regarding the NYCCT meeting in October

### December Board of Trustees meeting

- The retreat will start at 1 pm

### Trustee vacancies

- Out of the nine appointed trustees on the board five members are serving with expired terms.

### Program Committee Report

Trustee Jacknis reported:

The Program committee had discussion on the following topics.

- We had a briefing on COVID related issues from Vanessa Morest, Janice Gilroy and Scott Sullivan.
  - SUNY Requirements
    - Students must be tested before leaving for Thanksgiving break.
    - No one is required to be on campus until February 1.
    - Eliminate spring break
- Tere Wisell spoke to us regarding online events and two grant programs including the Metallica grant.

### Student Trustee Report

Trustee Palencia reported:

- The students had a successful town hall today
- We are sending out a student survey this week to find out how students are feeling about their class and how they are dealing with the pandemic.

### Finance/Facilities

Trustee Mitchell reported:

The Finance committee had discussion on the following topics.

- Reviewed the operating forecast – we have some savings in personnel
- Reviewed the status of our capital projects.

Trustee Mitchell asked Vice President Brian Murphy to go over the forecast for the month ending October 31, 2020 and the contracts.

Vice President Murphy presented the contracts to the Board.

**Resolution: Contract Ratification**

**WHEREAS**, Westchester Community College is required to enter into agreements for the continued operation of the College; and

**WHEREAS**, the attached schedule represents those agreements approved by the College since the last meeting of the Board of Trustees; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Westchester Community College hereby ratifies the aforementioned agreements.

<b><u>CONTRACT #</u></b>	<b><u>CONTRACTOR NAME</u></b>	<b><u>CONTRACT DESCRIPTION</u></b>	<b><u>TERM</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
21-0240-486-FAC	Energy Management Facilities Inc.	Furnish & install Variable Frequency Drives in the PE Building and Academic Arts Building	12/1/20-3/31/21	\$12,944
21-0240-487-FAC	Fleet Pump & Service Group Inc.	Furnish & install pumps and motors in the PE Building	12/1/20-3/31/21	\$6,320
21-0110-611-EA	Kenneth Gabrielsen Photography, LLC - d/b/a Gabrielsen Photography (Name correction only)	Primary professional photographer for marketing and promotions	11/15/20-11/14/24	\$22,500

**\*\*Motion: Mitchell/Robeson Smith – all in favor**

**2021-2022 Capital Program**

Trustees Mitchell asked VP Murphy to present the 2021-2022 Capital Program to the Board.

<b><u>PROJECT NO.</u></b>	<b><u>PROJECT</u></b>	<b><u>2021/22 REQUEST</u></b>	
WCC 79	Roof Replacement - Various Buildings	196,000	Roof Replacement for Knollwood Center
WCC 82	Site Upgrade - Campus Wide	392,000	Technology Building Surrounding Area and Student Center Parking Lot B
WCC 83	Infrastructure Upgrade - Various Buildings	1,006,000	Hartford Hall, Student Center and Bookstore
WCC 90	Technology Upgrade Off Campus 2017/18-2021/22	100,000	Year 5 of 5 Year Phase to provide upgrades of PC's, laptops, printers, scanners on a 5 year replacement cycle
WCC 91	Technology Upgrade On-Campus 2017/18-2021/22	1,400,000	Year 5 of 5 Year Phase to provide upgrades of PC's, laptops, printers, scanners on a 5 year replacement cycle
WCC 92	Planning Studies 2017/18-2021/22	<u>75,000</u>	Year 5 of 5 Year Phase
<b>GROSS TOTAL</b>		<b><u>3,169,000</u></b>	

**\*\*Motion: Mitchell/Robeson Smith – all in favor**

Public Comment

Trustee Nonna invited members of the community for public comment

No public comment

**The Vice-Chairperson convened an Executive Session under provisions of Section 105 of Article 7 of the Public Officers Law to discuss personnel matters.**

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

**\*\*Motion: Nonna/Gerry – all in favor**

Motion out of Executive Session

**\*\*Motion: Nonna/Spano – all in favor**

Adjournment

**\*\*Motion: Nonna/Mitchell – all in favor**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for December 16, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

*Yolanda Howell*

Yolanda Howell  
Secretary, Board of Trustees