



Ratified at June 16, 2021 meeting

**Board of Trustees Meeting
May 19, 2021**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Westchester Community College held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, at 3 PM via zoom video conference.

Trustees Present:

Hon. John Nonna, Chairperson, Dr. LeRoy Mitchell, Vice-Chairperson, Robin Bikkal, Esq., Susan Gerry, Dr. Norman Jacknis, Deborah Raizes, Dr. Gregory Robeson Smith, Hon. Lyndon Williams and Yolanda Howell, Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

Trustees Excused:

Hon. Andrew Spano

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, Dolores Swirin Yao, Vice President and Dean, External Affairs, Executive Director, WCC Foundation, 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 Robeson Smith made a motion seconded by Trustee Gerry to ratify the minutes of the April 21, 2021 Board meeting. The motion passed.

INFORMATION AND DECISION

A. President's Report

Dr. Belinda S. Miles reported:

President Miles gave updates on the following:

- Season of celebrations of success
 - Commencement
 - Nursing pinning
 - Jack Kent Cooke scholar recipient
 - Lavender ceremony
- Recruitment activity strong – 1,000 VIP (**V**alued, **I**nformed, on a **P**athway) commitments
- Anticipating SUNY guidance on pandemic re-emergence
 - We will be accessible via in-person and remote classes
 - Affordability as a key message

B. Board Chair's Report

Trustee Nonna reported:

- I really appreciated the virtual Commencement celebration and the Academic recognition ceremony.
- I want to do a shout out to the WCC Foundation to thank them for all of their support.
- I attended a SAFE space event – on Justice and accountability. I applaud the college for having these kinds of events
- Governance committee received a report from the office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The Board will adopt its own DEI statement later in this meeting.
- I applaud the efforts of the BOT nominating committee. I feel that the slate that they will present later in the meeting is a step forward.

C. Committees

Governance

Trustees Raizes and Robeson Smith and reported:

The Governance committee had discussion on the following topics.

Trustee Raizes

- Trustee Bikkal has been reappointed by the Governor.
- There is a nomination slate for officers which we will bring forth later.
- We will also vote on the DEI policy later in the meeting.
- We spoke about the BOT retreat and a possible facilitator.
- We discussed the BOT self-assessment
- We looked at the Honorary degree procedures

Program Committee Report

Trustee Jacknis reported:

The Program committee had discussion on the following topics.

- Enrollment seems to be up for the fall semester.
- Going forward a fair number of classes are online.
- Most of the meeting was about workforce development
 - COVID unemployment has hit women severely
 - Westchester Health Career Pathways
- We had a discussion about the pipeline to BOCES

Finance/Facilities

Trustee Mitchell reported:

The Finance committee had discussion on the following topics.

We went over contracts, operating budget, capital improvements.

We also had a presentation by our auditors. Congratulations to Brian Murphy and Dawn Gillins for all of their hard work. We were given a “clean opinion/unmodified opinion” (no changes no modifications) by the auditors.

Trustee Mitchell asked Vice President Brian Murphy to go over the forecast for the month ending April 30, 2021 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.

<u>CONTRACT #</u>	<u>CONTRACTOR NAME</u>	<u>CONTRACT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
21-0240-494-FAC	Advanced Testing Systems, Inc.	High voltage switch gear preventative maintenance.	6/1/21 – 12/31/21	\$11,040
21-0240-919-FAC	DCAK-MSA Architecture & Engineering PC	Study for the Science Building Nursing Simulation Lab renovations.	6/1/21 – 1/31/22	\$26,700
21-8102-216-PDC	International Business Machines Corporation	Access to the IBM Skills Academy software.	6/1/21 -5/31/22	\$3,000 (Revenue \$46,000)
21-9522-665-AA	SPEARMC Consulting, Inc.	PEOPLESOFT system contractor to provide expert optimization & support services. This contract is funded through the TITLE V GRANT.	6/1/21 – 5/31/22	\$70,000 (Grant funded)

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

Election of Board Officers

Trustee Robeson Smith reported

Resolution

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

WHEREAS, the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees for the election of Officers of the Board of Trustees shall be held in May of each year; and

WHEREAS, a nominating committee consisting of three members of the Board (Robin Bikkal, Esq., Deborah Raizes, Dr. Gregory Robeson Smith) was appointed by the Board therefore

BE IT RESOVLED, that the nominating committee of the Board of Trustees hereby present the following slate of officers for the following positions:

- Chairperson – Dr. LeRoy Mitchell
- Vice Chairperson – Dr. Norman Jacknis
- Secretary – Yolanda Howell

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this slate of Officers will take office on **July 1, 2021** and will hold office until their elected successors take office.

****Motion: Robeson Smith/Bikkal – all in favor**

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A POLICY ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

WHEREAS, the Westchester Community College Board of Trustees has authority to establish and revise college policies;

WHEREAS, a policy recommendation on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion has been proposed and reviewed in consultation with the President of the College; and

WHEREAS, the Governance Committee of the Board of Trustees recommends the adoption of a new policy to affirm the Board's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion among the entire college community and encourage open and frank dialogue about diversity, equity, and inclusion issues on campus;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby adopts the policy on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as shown in the attachment.

(Attachment)

Westchester Community College Board of Trustees Diversity Equity and Inclusion Policy
The Westchester Community College Board of Trustees (the "Board") affirms its commitment to Diversity Equity and Inclusion ("DEI"). This commitment extends to the entire college community. That includes the Board, administration, faculty staff and students. The Board encourages open and frank dialogue about DEI Issues on campus. The Board expresses the following policies to promote DEI:

- 1. Afford each student an equal and fair opportunity to develop their talents and achieve a successful college experience;*
- 2. Assure diversity throughout the college community;*
- 3. Promote DEI values through professional development of trustees, administrators, faculty and staff;*
- 4. Promote DEI values among students through curriculum, programs and activities;*
- 5. Encourage an equitable and inclusive culture for the entire college community;*
- 6. Encourage reporting of discriminatory incidents of every kind that are based upon race, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, sexual preference, mental or physical disability;*
- 7. Assure any member of the college community who reports an incident of discrimination does not suffer any retaliation;*
- 8. Monitor and evaluate progress in achieving DEI goals;*
- 9. Condemn hate speech directed toward any person or group;*
- 10. Promote DEI in the awarding of contracts to Minority and Women owned Business Enterprises ("MWBE").*

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

Comment from Trustee Raizes

Trustee Nonna as a Board we would like to thank you for your commitment to the college, your commitment to the Board, and for being such an articulate leader. You have taken the Board to a higher level. I always look forward to your comments and the ethical way you have dealt with issues that have come before the Board over the last few years.

Public Comment

Trustee Nonna invited members of the community for public comment

1. Sheldon Malev addressed the board regarding awarding retired Professor Iris Cook the title of Professor Emerita.
2. John Ahern addressed the board regarding awarding retired Professor Iris Cook the title of Professor Emerita.
3. Clare Ahern thanked everyone for supporting the Collegium. Clare also gave her support for retired Professor Iris Cook to be awarded the title of Professor Emerita.

Adjournment

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

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for June 16, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Yolanda Howell

Yolanda Howell
Secretary, Board of Trustees