

CLARK STATE FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Wednesday, March 17, 2021  
Lifesize Virtual Meeting

Minutes

Directors present: Mitch Hurst (Chair), Dr. Jo Alice Blondin, Bill Brougher, John Brown, Nettie Carter-Smith, Shashi Chadha, Sharon Doyle, Sue Evans, Katherine Hoptry, Steve Neely, Peggy Noonan, Kerry Pedraza, Patti Phillips, Jo Ann Rigano and Ben Vollrath

Staff present: Adele Adkins, Christa Bostick, Lo Houser, Karen Hunt, Dr. Tiffany Hunter, Crystal Jones, Dr. Dawayne Kirkman, Kathy Nelson, Toni Overholser, Doug Schantz, Larry Wakefield, and Nina Wiley

**Welcome.** Chair Mitch Hurst welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 11:31 a.m. He wished everyone a happy St. Patrick's Day and offered some St. Patrick's Day trivia to start the meeting. St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was actually born in Britain. The first known St. Patrick's Day parade was held on March 17, 1601 in Spanish colony which is now St. Augustine, Florida.

He welcomed College Trustee Peggy Noonan to the meeting and announced that Peggy will be attending meetings as the liaison between the Board of Trustees and Board of Directors.

**Presentation – Student Affairs Overview.** Dr. Dawayne Kirkman, Vice President of Student Affairs and Nina Wiley, Dean of Student Engagement and Support Services, gave a presentation on the College's department of Student Affairs. They want all students to know:

*Our students can do this:*

- Accessible – open access and meet with prospective students to assist with onboarding process
- Affordable – financial aid, scholarships, Pell Grant, loans, etc. to help pay for college
- High Quality Academic Programs and tutoring is also available for a wide range of subjects at no cost

*Our students belong here:*

- Office of Student Support – identify, assess and address student needs; strategic follow up with students
- Special services for International students, Military, Men of Clark State
- Counseling services – help students cope
- Mercy Health Springfield Primary Care – offers five clinic visits per student throughout the year as needed, plus one wellness check (all students, except CCP and active military, pay a health service fee)
- Trauma-Informed Practices – support students holistically to reduce stress and improve mental health

*Our students have a purpose:*

- Advising/Success Coaches – create academic plans and schedule classes
- Career Services – identify career opportunities, develop interviewing skills and build resume
- TRIO Student Support Services – “safety net for students” - academic advising, connection to campus resources for first generation and low-income students
- Student Life and Athletics

*And that purpose is good:*

- College graduate or successful transfer
- Proud Clark State alum
- Foundation supporter – coming full circle

Additionally, Nina highlighted Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society:

- Eligibility: enrolled fall and spring, completed 12 credit hours, minimum 3.5 GPA
- \$80 fee to join, but Clark State pays for half
- 50% tuition discount at Wittenberg for transferring students
- 5-Star status, fourth straight year
- REACH award status
- Leadership opportunities, regional conferences

**Minutes.** Bill Brougher presented the minutes from the January 20, 2021 meeting. Patti Phillips moved to accept, Jo Ann Rigano seconded, and the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Financial Statements.** Kathy Nelson presented the financial statements for the period ending February 28, 2021 showing a fund balance of \$13,617,684 and reflecting an increase of \$177,177 since December. Kathy added that we are in good shape – expenses are down due to remote operations. Katherine Hoptry moved for approval, Nettie Carter-Smith seconded, and the motion to accept the financials was approved by unanimous voice vote.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance/Audit/Investment Committee.** Chair Bill Brougher reported that an RFP subcommittee has begun the process of looking at other money managers to manage our invested funds. RFP will go out by the end of the month and then will take the next several months to evaluate and decide. The process should be completed by early summer.

**Resource Development Committee.** Chair Jo Ann Rigano reported that the Committee has not met and there is no report. She commented that today’s presentation is a reminder of how student-centered Clark State is and that our top priority is helping students!

**Governance Committee.** Chair Kerry Pedraza offered a follow up to the two items brought to the Board in January. Toni has completed a Code of Ethics and created an Application for New

Board Members. All Board members will be asked to complete these forms annually, to assure the information is current.

**Scholarship Committee.** Chair Nettie Carter-Smith reported that the Committee last met on January 27, 2021 to discuss the Scholars Program. Since that time, virtual interviews for the Scholars Program have taken place. There were 76 applications and all of those students should be inducted into the program. Notifications will go out to students this week. Thank you to everyone who was able to participate in the interviews.

**Friends of PACC.** Chair Katherine Hoptry reported that the recent virtual gala idea has transitioned into a “scavenger hunt” to be held this summer in our 3-county, 4-location service area: Xenia, Beavercreek, Bellefontaine and Springfield. The dates have not yet been determined. The HBC will reopen on June 1 – there are currently four weddings scheduled.

## STANDING REPORTS

**Chairman’s Report.** Mitch reminded the Board the next couple of meetings will be virtual, but the June 16 meeting is planned for in-person with a virtual option.

**Board of Trustees Report.** Peggy Noonan reported that the Board of Trustees met last night. The Board of Trustees appreciates all the Foundation does and is there to help support them.

**President’s Report.** Dr. Blondin reported on the following:

- David Ball has been reappointed to the Board of Trustees. Thanks to Governor DeWine, Lt. Governor Husted, Senator Hackett, and former Congressman Dave Hobson. Kyle Hall is now serving as Chair; David will serve as Vice-Chair and Peggy Noonan is serving as liaison to the Foundation Board. At the Board of Trustees meeting last night, they celebrated all the College’s accomplishments during Brad Phillips’ time as Chair:
  - Raised nearly \$20,000,000 in grants in just over 2 years that Brad has served as chair
  - 2 Bachelor’s degrees, starting a third
  - Graduated first 6 Bachelor’s Degree recipients
  - Clark State has not furloughed employees during Covid
- \$3.5 million Department of Labor grant received for photonics, laser manufacturing
- Department of Defense \$3.1 million grant coming, thanks to Toni’s leadership; her expertise in this area, background in fundraising and military is an unbeatable combination for Foundation Director
- Senator Hackett is proposing an easier pathway for military to translate skills into college credit; model at Air National Guard to get legislation through, Toni and Dr. Hunter instrumental in this
- OACC Budget Priorities – Toni will share the 5-point list after today’s meeting
- Clark State does not plan to raise tuition; although it will be allowable under the Governor’s version and House version of the budget bill
- Covid relief funding priorities:

- Last year received CARES \$3 million last March, \$1.5 million to students
- This year \$6.8 million with \$1.5 million to students, one-third was deployed in February, and some will be for summer and fall; other funds will be used for one-time investments in infrastructure and technology; Dr. Franz could provide information at a future board meeting about some of these priorities
- Last Friday President Biden signed American Recovery Plan (ARP); \$12 million received; \$6 million must be spent directly for students by September 2023
- \$20 million received in total - CARES, CRRSA, ARP
- College will resume on-campus operations June 1
- Brad Phillips is featured in book by Dr. Dan Phelan, *The Community College Board 2.0 Covenant Governance*; quotes include “pouring into the well of good will” referencing how to cultivate good Board members
- The College has launched a virtual self-care space for employees, and is working on one for students; physical self-care space will be in Rhodes Hall
- Clark State Professor, Dr. Victoria Marling passed away unexpectedly recently; Faculty members are collecting money to establish a scholarship in her name
- Virtual retiree session yesterday; attended by Dr. Rafinski, Marvin Nephew, and others

**Director’s Report.** Toni Overholser asked for updates on Project Jericho and the Scholars Program.

Lo Houser provided an update on Project Jericho:

- Recently completed a mothers and daughters project in conjunction with Zonta
- Meeting weekly for programming at the juvenile detention center
- Received continued funding for juvenile court for next fiscal year
- CCJFS – expect contract renewal for next year
- Shared a picture of updated design for “Hope Ahead” bike path mural
- Working on programming for a unique partnership with Springfield City Schools for a 4-week summer boot camp
- Newsletter will be out soon

Karen Hunt reported on the following for the Scholars Program:

- Thank you to everyone for their part in the recent interview process; the students were well-prepared thanks to hard work by the school counselors
- Delivery of acceptance letters and sweatshirts will begin today
- 76 students applied, 4 dropped out of the process due to transferring out their district, so 72 students will be inducted

Toni reported on the following:

- Thanks to Lo and Karen for all they are doing; they have done a great job in the last year adapting as required to meet their students’ needs
- College for Kids and Teens will be offered this year; classes will be face-to-face but class size will be limited. The program will run from the middle of July to first part of August. There are two new classes this year - Manufacturing and Coding; these align with programs of study offered by the College

- The Exchange Club Foundation of Springfield is donating \$15,000 for an endowed scholarship for students pursuing a Bachelor's degree in manufacturing. The scholarship will be in honor of Fred Dillon, one of their first presidents, and in honor of the Club's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary

**Adjorn.** The next meeting will be April 21, 2021 and will be virtual. Mitch closed the meeting with some St. Patrick's Day trivia and thanked everyone for what they do for the students at Clark State.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Overholser  
Foundation Director