

CLARK STATE FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Wednesday, October 19, 2022 @ 11:30 a.m.  
Brinkman Educational Center

MINUTES

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

Staff present: Christa Bostick, Lo Houser, Karen Hunt, Crystal Jones, Kathy Nelson, Toni Overholser, Doug Schantz, and Dr. Rick Woodfield

Guests: Michelle Noble (student), Nina Wiley, Roseann Terbay

**Welcome.** Chair Patti Phillips welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 11:42 a.m. She opened the meeting with some facts about this day in history and a quote from Lucy Stone: "Now all we need is to continue to speak the truth fearlessly, and we shall add to our number those who will turn the scale to the side of equal and full justice in all things."

She welcomed guests to the meeting - SOAR member, Roseann Terbay and student, Michelle Noble. She also welcomed new Board member, Daragh Porter, to her first meeting. She then recognized Mitch Hurst who served as Board Chair from 2020-2022, and thanked him for his strong leadership, especially during the challenging time of the pandemic.

**Student Story.** Michelle Noble spoke about her educational journey at Clark State. She shared that it has not been easy due to personal challenges, but she has persevered because she wants a better life for her children and because she has received so much support from everyone at Clark State. She recently received a scholarship through the Foundation and she thanked Board members for all they do to provide financial support for students like herself.

**Minutes.** Bill Brougher presented the minutes from the June 15, 2022 meeting. Nettie Carter-Smith made a motion to approve, Kerry Pedraza seconded, and the minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Financials.** Kathy Nelson presented the financial statements for the period ending June 30, 2022. The fund balance is currently \$27,057,995. Kathy explained that the increase occurred when gains were realized from the asset sale and transfer to the new investment manager. The Finance Committee will begin discussions on how to budget for these additional funds and more information will be provided at the next meeting. A motion to accept the financial statements was made by Mitch Hurst, seconded by Jo Ann Rigano, and was approved by unanimous voice vote.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Finance/Audit/Investment Committee.** Chair Bill Brougher reported that the Committee will begin working on a spending policy for the additional funds mentioned in the financial report. He welcomed new board member, Daragh Porter, to the Finance Committee.

**Resource Development Committee.** Chair Jo Ann Rigano reported on the following:

- Thank you to everyone who attended the Presidential Awards Banquet in September; \$3,450 was raised
- Clark State is now participating in AmazonSmile and encouraged everyone to sign up
- Annual Campaign emails and mailings have gone out; National Day of Giving is November 29 and will be posted on social media

**Governance Committee.** Chair Kerry Pedraza reported that the Committee met to go over the changes based on the feedback from the last meeting. They reviewed the Foundation bylaws and made recommendations for changes. The proposed changes are included in today's meeting packet. Nettie Carter-Smith made a motion to approve the changes, Katherine Hoptry seconded, and the changes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Scholarship Committee.** Chair Nettie Carter-Smith reported that the Committee met this month to review and update several scholarship policies, which are included in today's meeting packet. Kerry Pedraza made a motion to approve the changes, Bill Brougher seconded, and the changes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Nettie then reported that the Foundation is currently accepting applications through October 30 for spring semester scholarship awards. The review period will run from October 31 through November 13 and all Board members are expected to participate in the review process.

**Friends of the PACC.** Katherine Hoptry reported on the following:

- Community forums were conducted by Keen Research regarding the Performing Arts Center; the PAC is going to shift into a venue management model
- The PAC season has been announced; please help support
- Dan Hunt has been promoted to General Manager of the PAC
- There will be a committee meeting in November at which time the Committee will review the changes to structure and alignment

Crystal Jones added that everyone can view the forum recordings located on the Performing Arts Center page on the website. A full report from Alex Keen is also located there. She also reported:

- There will be a multi-year approach to the proposed changes
- Clark State has been the sole funding source; we need to get the community involved to increase fundraising and build the endowment
- We will start programming for a complete audience
- Change will come and we are encouraged

## **STANDING REPORTS**

**Chairman's Report.** Chair Patti Phillips reminded everyone to review the calendar at the bottom of the agenda for upcoming meeting dates. She congratulated Ben Vollrath on his appointment to the College Board of Trustees and thanked him for his service on the Foundation Board.

**Board of Trustees Report.** Peggy Noonan reported on the following:

- All day meeting on November 15
- Ohio Learning Commission report – certification takes place every 10 years
- At last night's regular meeting, the employee free speech policy was passed
- The recommendations from Keen research were accepted
- The student loan default rate has decreased to 3.2%

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

- Student loan default rate; average amount of student loans at community colleges is less than \$10,000; Nina sent out loan forgiveness information, HR Manager Laura Whetstone sent to employees
- There was an article in the Springfield paper regarding transfer decline numbers; trends reveal that students are choosing work over college
- Next Wednesday will be with other accreditation professionals to talk about Trustees' role in accreditation
- OACC legislative agenda draft will have a focus on Intel and Honda in workforce development and how to get direct aid for students to pursue careers that will result in jobs in those manufacturing facilities
- Recent visit by Ohio State Board of Nursing; NCLEX fell for third year in a row which triggered a visit; the program was given full approval; new Director of Nursing is Dr. Scott Dolan and he will be working on getting the passing rates up; the national average is 78% and we are at 76%
- VP for Academic Affairs search is underway; the search committee is currently interviewing 10 candidates; there will be open forums for the finalists and everyone is welcome to attend
- Book Club has been formed and will be reading Beyond Happiness by Jenn Lim
- United Way and Clark State are working on National Literacy Day, hoping Fran DeWine will attend
- Becca Rowland-Buckley from Greene County has been appointed and Sharon Evans has been reappointed to the Board of Trustees; Brad Phillips and Jim Doyle, who have 36 years of service between them, will be leaving the Board

**Director's Report.**

- Project Jericho – Lo Houser reported on the following:
  - Partnering with Clark County Public Library and Springfield Museum of Art for two programs this fall
  - Grant from CHF targeting mental health issues with teens and youth
  - Chalkfest successful
  - In the detention center this week, working with all the residents on a program of “empathy”
- Scholars Program – Karen Hunt reported on the following:
  - Campus visit dates, everyone welcome to attend
  - November 16 – Senior Harvest Night, goal is for students to experience Admissions and Financial Aid
  - Applications have gone to middle school 8<sup>th</sup> graders and interview dates have been confirmed; interviewers are needed
  - Working on strategic plan to help students understand the importance of college; many of them are thinking “jobs before college”
- Toni presented budget revision update
- Toni presented a 5-year fundraising comparison report:
  - Total revenue over \$5 million; grants account for a lot of this; new comparison report added showing Presidential Awards Banquet and the previously held PAC galas
  - New donor engagement for this year is 154, highest in the last 5 years
  - Focus areas, per new strategic plan, will be to expand Foundation's financial resources to support Clark State's mission, expand organization's partnership base, engage in fiduciary oversight, fundraising and college advocacy

**Adjourn.** Patti asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Jo Ann Rigano, seconded by Sharon Doyle, and approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Overholser  
Foundation Director