

CLARK STATE FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, March 16, 2022 @ 11:30 a.m.
Brinkman Building 4th Floor Conference Center

Minutes

Directors present: Mitch Hurst (Chair), Cindy Barnett, Dr. Jo Alice Blondin, John Brown, Nettie Carter-Smith, Shashi Chadha, Sharon Doyle, Sue Evans, Joe Monnin, Peggy Noonan, Kerry Pedraza, Patti Phillips, Jo Ann Rigano, Tera Thornton

Directors present by phone: Paul Newman Jr., Katherine Hoptry attempted but was unable to connect

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

Guest: Mark Brown, SOAR Class of 2022

Welcome. Chair Mitch Hurst welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m. He opened the meeting with a quote from Oprah Winfrey: “If you look at what you have in life, you’ll always have more. If you look at what you don’t have in life, you’ll never have enough.” He began the meeting by requesting everyone at the table to introduce themselves.

Presentation – AGB Conference and Membership. Toni Overholser shared that she and Dr. Blondin recently attended the Association of Governing Boards (AGB) Conference and gave an overview of the benefits the Foundation will receive through its new membership with AGB. She and Chair, Mitch Hurst, have gone through onboarding training and all Board members should start receiving newsletters and other communications.

Other items to note:

- Although the College is a member of ACCT, resources are limited; AGB is more visible nationally
- Comprehensive website; resources include podcasts, new board member orientation, and certification
- We may join AGB OnBoard, an online board management system
- Best practices will be incorporated into our new strategic plan
- College is finalizing its membership with them

Minutes. In Bill Brougner’s absence, Mitch Hurst presented the minutes from the January 19, 2022 meeting. Nettie Carter-Smith made a motion to approve, John Brown seconded, and the minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance/Audit/Investment Committee. Mitch Hurst reported that the Committee has not met and there is no report. However, the September 2021 financials that were presented at the January meeting require a vote of approval; Patti Phillips made a motion for approval, Jo Ann Rigano seconded, and the September 2021 financials were approved by a unanimous voice vote. Kathy Nelson gave a quick update regarding the investment manager change. The process of moving funds from CommonFund to Park National Bank has begun and should be in place by the first of April.

Resource Development Committee. Chair Jo Ann Rigano announced that plans for the April 30 5K to benefit the Champaign County Scholars Program are underway. The event will take place at the trail adjacent to the Champaign Family YCMA in Urbana. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. and the event will begin at 9:00 a.m. We will use the JustGiving platform again since that worked well for the last event. There will be a 1-mile option for smaller children.

Event fees are as follows:

- Sponsorships - \$750
- Adult - \$35
- Youth - \$15
- Family of 4 - \$75

A big thank you goes to Paul Waldsmith and his staff at the Champaign Family Y for their help and to Patrick Field for helping promote the event. Urbana and Graham School Superintendents are very enthusiastic about this and Karen added that many of the students she has talked to are planning to participate. We will need Board members to help with promoting the event and volunteering on the day of the event. Toni will send a sign-up sheet electronically.

Scholarship Committee. Chair Nettie Carter-Smith reported that we have received 134 applications so far for summer semester scholarships. The review period will be April 1-7 and will need Board members to help review applications.

Friends of Performing Arts and Conference Center Committee. Adele Adkins reported that recent updates were included in the minutes contained in the packet. Crystal Jones reported that Keen Independent Research will be on campus next week to conduct a market and operational research study. They will meet with Adele and staff at the Performing Arts Center and Hollenbeck Bayley Creative Arts and Conference Center. College Trustee Chair, Kyle Hall and Foundation Board Chair, Mitch Hurst, will also participate. It was reiterated that the research firm will incorporate any work that has already been done to enhance the facilities.

STANDING REPORTS

Chairman's Report. Chair Mitch Hurst stated that one item not included with the dates at the bottom of today's agenda is the room dedication for former Clark State Professor Dan Heighton who passed away last year. The dedication ceremony will take place on Tuesday, March 29 at 4 p.m. in the Park National Bank Community Room in LRC.

Board of Trustees Report. Peggy Noonan reported the following from last night's Board of Trustees meeting:

- Presentation on trauma-informed approaches
- Legislative update
 - Appropriations bill increased funds for higher ed
 - Pell increase of \$400
 - Workforce
- Strategic plan process; mission and vision will stay the same
- National Honor Society convention was held at Clark State; 100 students
- Student loan default rate has decreased

President's Report. Dr. Blondin gave a college update highlighting the following:

- Rebooting strategic plan which is set to expire at the end of the 2022 academic year; college strategic planning session on April 22; Toni will send invitation to Foundation Board members to attend
- Capital bill would have normally been passed by now with March money coming in by July 1; they are behind; Higher Ed side \$3 million, community side \$2 million
- Received a letter from the Department of Education thanking us for being good stewards of HEERF funds; one example is the replacement of the HVAC system in BEC
- Proud to be appointed to Governor's task force for the National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center in Xenia; will be working on the education and partnership side with Central state, Wilberforce SOCHE; report back to Governor DeWine end of April

- Dr. Hunter and Dr. Blondin have been included in Intel meetings, 6 community colleges working together - Lorain, Sinclair, Clark State College, Columbus State, Central Ohio Technical College, Stark State
- Amazon on campus last week; they are offering scholarship incentives to employees to attend college; we are one of 16 colleges in the US they are working with

Director's Report.

- Project Jericho – Lo Houser reported on the following:
 - Please join us tonight by Zoom between 6-7:30 p.m. for Dr. Tasha Golden's seminar, *Beyond Well Being*; part 2 will be in person in May at HBC
 - 6 programs going on simultaneously right now
- Scholars Program – Karen Hunt reported on the following:
 - Thank you for those who have volunteered to interview 8th graders for the new scholars class; interviews will finish on March 31
 - The induction ceremony is on April 12, 2022, at Performing Arts Center
 - 13 Scholars currently attending Clark State
 - Toni added that the connection scholars have with their mentors is very special so please continue to promote the mentoring opportunity
- Toni reported that Megan Cummins, Youth Program Coordinator, will begin on March 21. Megan was in the very first class of Champion City Scholars, we are excited to have her join the team
- We are approximately 10% above last year's fundraising totals
- We are working with some donors to prepare scholarship specific outreach materials; if you are connected to a specific scholarship, we can create one for you
- Walk/run to benefit Champaign County Scholars is April 30; please help get the word out to businesses and individuals
- Strategic Plan – thank you to the committee for your work; Toni distributed a handout detailing the new strategic plan. A few minor wording and punctuation changes were suggested. Toni outlined the goals and initiatives and added we will all be responsible for working on these; however, goal #3 will be managed by the Foundation Governance Committee. John Brown made a motion to accept the strategic plan, Patti Phillips seconded, and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote. This will be added to the Foundation page on the website, and Dr. Blondin suggested it also be brought to the next town hall meeting.

Other. Crystal Jones thanked the 60th Anniversary committee for their work and ideas to help promote and celebrate the anniversary of the college. She acknowledged members of the Foundation Board and staff – Lo Houser, Christa Bostick, Ben Vollrath, and Tera Thornton – and thanked them for serving on the committee. Some upcoming events include an alumni celebration, a time capsule, and the "Name the Eagle" contest. If you have any additional ideas, please let Crystal know. She added that there is a separate committee led by Dr. Melinda Mohler that is gathering historical data and facts. Crystal also noted that the PAC gala idea is tabled for now.

Adjourn. Mitch ended the meeting with the following quote from Ruth Bader Ginsberg, "Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you."

The meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Overholser
Foundation Director