

Massachusetts Community College Council

Margaret Wong, President
Rosemarie Freeland, Vice President
Henry (Chip) Bradford, Treasurer
Ellen Pratt, Secretary



Don Williams, Communications
Dennis Fitzgerald, Day Grievance
Joseph Rizzo, DCE Grievance
Hilaire Jean-Gilles, Research
Tom Powers, Webmaster

Minutes of the MCCC Board of Directors Electronic Meeting via Zoom January 22, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. APPROVED 2.19.2021

Present: President Margaret Wong, Vice President Rosemarie Freeland (MTA Board), Treasurer Chip Bradford, and Secretary Ellen Pratt; Members At-Large: Claudine Barnes, Brian Falter, and Candace Shivers (NEA); Part-time At-Large: Laura Schlegel; MTA: Bret Seferian, Colleen Fitzpatrick, and Tyler Rocco-Chaffee; Directors: Ellen Shanahan (BeCC Alt), DeAnna Putnam, Trevor Kearns, Trudy Tynan, Linda Giampa, Cathy Boudreau, Joe Nardoni (MTA Board), Sue McPherson, Tom Smith, and Ben Anilus.

Guests: Don Williams (Communications Coordinator), Hilaire Jean-Gilles (Research Coordinator), Phil Mahler (MCCC Office), Charles Webb (AAF CPA), Ciro Castaldi (AAF CPA), and Mark Linde.

President Wong called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. and the Order of Business was approved as amended (Barnes/Shivers).

MCCC Orientation Video

Colleen Fitzpatrick provided information relative to the orientation video. A meeting to clarify “wants and needs” for the video is scheduled for January 28, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Fitzpatrick will send announcement to Chapters and BOD to share with members. Brian Falter continues as Executive Committee liaison for this project.

Tyler Rocco-Chaffee was introduced. Rocco-Chaffee will work with the following chapters: BeCC, GCC, HCC, MWCC, and STCC.

AAF CPA Audit Presentation

Charles Webb and Ciro Castaldi walked the BOD through the audit documents. The Board Report indicated “no difficulties working with management” and “no audit adjustments.” The Management Letter identified no weaknesses and recommended best practices related to segregation of duties related to cash receipts. The audit opinion is a “clean unmodified opinion, fair and in accordance with policy.”

MOTION: The Board of Directors adopts the Alexander, Aronson, Finning & Co., P.C. Audit Report dated January 2021. (Barnes/Nardoni) **PASSED**

The work and contribution of Phil Mahler, Angela Perno, Edy Stoddard, and Treasurer Bradford to this unprecedented virtual audit is recognized and appreciated.

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Campus Roundup (a selection of the information shared)

GCC and MaCC: COVID testing sites

MiCC: enrollment decline of 27% (STCC is down 25%; MWCC is down 16%; QCC is down 15%; RCC is down 25%; NSCC is down 17%; NECC is down 7.7% and FTE is down 13.6%; CCCC has level FTE; BHCC is down 15-19%; HCC is down 32.9%; MaCC is down 19%)

RCC, CCCC and NSCC Lynn: regional vaccine centers

STCC: BOT is expected to take action on 5 of the programs cut last year

HCC: NECHE made clear that BOT need to do a long overdue assessment of the Board

MaCC: new governance structure implemented by retired interim president was never voted on by faculty and there are 2 unit members determining committee membership

BHCC: lowered pro-rate number for class sections to 10 students

BeCC: search committee for VPAA had an average tenure of 3-years (some only 6 months) and the President is Chair of committee

RCC: granted initial approval status for nursing program

Reports

President Wong reported the negotiations survey will be sent to Chapters on January 25 or 26, 2021 and will be available until February 15, 2021. The survey should be filled out by all full and part-time faculty and professional staff. Results should help the Negotiating Team get a better picture of member concerns and priorities.

MTA Winter Skills is scheduled for January 30, 2021 (one day event).

Vice President Freeland reported on MTA's vaccine campaign for Higher Education. MTA acted without regard to the work and needs of the MCCC by securing the signatures of all fifteen community college presidents on a letter to the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (Sec. Sudders) and the Executive Office of Education (Sec. Peyser) before seeking the signature of President Wong. Freeland reported Gov. Baker's vetoes were overridden by the Legislature and the focus has turned to the FY22 budget.

Treasurer Bradford provided an update on financials (included in meeting materials) and reported the Finance Committee is finishing up the FY22 budget.

Secretary Pratt will be issuing an updated Leadership Directory. With the guidance of Claudine Barnes, Pratt is cleaning up the Bylaws and Policies Manual relative to the elimination of the Treasurer officer position on June 1, 2022.

Bret Seferian suggested that the DPH indicates that anyone COVID facing is part of Phase 1 of COVID vaccine distribution. Additionally, the law allows for vaccines to be mandatory with ADA and religious exemptions, however it is a mandatory subject of bargaining. So far, there are no places where the COVID vaccine is mandatory. Seferian stressed that no member should sign a waiver to absolve a school from liability; a blanket liability waiver provides no recourse for an individual.

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Day Impact Bargaining Chair, Claudine Barnes reported that MOAs from impact bargaining can be shared with other Chapters, however how has yet to be determined.

Candace Shivers, NEA Director included several documents in the meeting materials.

Cathy Boudreau shared that 2 long term employees of NEA are DOE employees brought in by Biden. Harris Aikens and Emma Leheny have been asked to join the Biden-Harris Administration, serving in important roles in the Department of Education. Donna will be serving as Senior Advisor for Policy and Planning in the Office of the Secretary and Emma will be the Acting General Counsel.

Research Report

Hilaire Jean-Gilles, Research Coordinator, presented on membership numbers and trends for the fall 2020 semester. The report is available under Coordinators on the MCCC website.

Stipend for Day Impact Bargaining Chair

MOTION: Move the Board of Directors direct the MCCC pay a stipend equivalent of a reassigned time at DCE Step 2 to current impact bargaining chair, Claudine Barnes, for the unprecedented work that is required for Day Contract impact bargaining in the spring 2021. (Pratt/Nardoni) **PASSED**

MOTION: Suspend the rules*. (Boudreau/Schlegel) **PASSED** with 2/3 majority

*Standing rules for MCCC Meetings Rule 25.

The BOD was in Executive Session 2:24 p.m. – 3:06 p.m. and 4:36 p.m. – 5:26 p.m.

Motion to reaffirm passed. (Nardoni/Tynan)

MOTION: The Board of Directors appoints Ellen Pratt (MWCC) and Latasha Sarpy (BHCC) to the Day Negotiations Team. **PASSED** [Pratt exited. Barnes took minutes.]

MOTION: MCCC write a letter to MTA leadership with copies to the MTA Board expressing its outrage (could be adjusted), that the MTA leadership would enter into a joint letter with the presidents, completely apart from and without the knowledge and support of the MCCC. This latest action represents an ongoing concern of disappointment with MTA lack of communication and support of MCCC. (Boudreau/Shivers) **PASSED** unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Submitted by Ellen Pratt, MCCC Secretary