

The 250th meeting of the Board of Trustees
Mount Wachusett Community College
Thursday, December 10, 2020
Remote Zoom meeting
Meeting Minutes

Members present on Zoom meeting: Robert Antonioni, Claire Freda, Jamy Gaynor, Denise Gosselin, Irene Hernandez, Vanessa Hill (Student Trustee), Tracy Hutchinson, and representing the Academic Senate, Sheila Murphy

Members unable to attend: Donata Martin and Ken Tomasetti

Guest presenter: Fire Science Instructor, Alfred LeBlanc

Present from the College: President Vander Hooven, Vice Presidents Rachel Frick Cardelle, Paul Hernandez, Dan Horlander, Robert LaBonte, Lea Ann Scales, Peter Sennett, Joseph Stiso and Associate and Sr. Dean of Student Affairs, Jason Zelesky and Senior Staff Associate Jo-Ann Meagher. There were many faculty and staff viewing the Vimeo live stream.

- A. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Antonioni called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Chairman Antonioni called for a motion to approve the minutes of October 21, 2020. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Gosselin and seconded by Ms. Freda. All approved. Motion carried.
- C. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Chairman Antonioni**
- Chairman Antonioni thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Introduced Sheila Murphy, the liaison to the Academic Senate who gave the board an update on the Academic Senate Standing Committee Membership. Ms. Murphy shared the chart that includes members from all sectors of the college. It will be implemented in the fall.
- D. PRESIDENT’S REPORT – President Vander Hooven**
- The president welcomed everyone to the Trustees meeting.
 - The president asked for a moment of silence to observe the passing of Brenda Bourgeois who worked at the college for 22 years in the Academic Testing Department. Many of us in the college community will sorely miss her.
 - Enrollment - as of today we are down 20% for the spring semester, we are actually up from 39%. The president gave his deepest appreciation for the efforts to all involved in the enrollment cycle
 - We are still waiting on the state budget but all indications have far exceeded our expectations for this year. We had requested up to \$2 M of reserve monies, however, we have not yet had to be utilized those funds.
 - The president extended appreciation to Joe Stiso, his staff and Leadership Team for putting the Self Evaluation End of Year Report together included in the Trustees packet.
 - Strategic Plan – the president explained that COVID-19 crisis has had him doing the “here and now” crisis management approach and not focusing on sharing the “strategic” approach and vision. He ensured that all departments on all campuses be included in the growth and direction of the college. We have a convergence of two major initiatives: “Strategic Plan and Visioning” and the Self Study Accreditation through NECHE. We will be sharing more information at the next meeting.

- Chairman Antonioni informed the board of the President Evaluation Subcommittee that met prior to full board meeting. Chairman Antonioni praised Dr. Vander Hooven for his transparency, informative emails, inclusion and innovative approach to the needs of the college and community. Mr. Antonioni asked for a motion to approve the presidents' self-evaluation. A motion was made and approved to send the notice of approval to the Department of Higher Education.

E. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

F. ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS OF THE DAY - NONE

G. OLD BUSINESS-CHAIRMAN ANTONIONI-NONE

H. NEW BUSINESS –PRESIDENT VANDER HOOVEN-FIRE SCIENCE PRESENTATION

The board welcomed Fire Science Instructor Alfred LeBlanc. Mr. LeBlanc gave an overview of the Fire Science program offered at the college. (Presentation included in packet)

- Mr. LeBlanc gave a brief history of the program
- He spoke of the value of 5-year review
- Acceptance to Completion
- Dual Enrollment Grant 2020
- Partners for Success

I. ADJOURNMENT - Chairman Antonioni asked if there was any other business before the board. Hearing none, the Chair asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Ms. Hutchinson and seconded by Ms. Gosselin. The meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Ann Meagher