Minutes Approved: August 12, 2021

The 253rd meeting of the Board of Trustees
Mount Wachusett Community College
Wednesday, June 9, 2021
Remote Zoom meeting
Meeting Minutes

Members present on Zoom meeting: Robert Antonioni, Claire Freda, Jamy Gaynor, Denise Gosselin, Irene Hernandez, Tracy Hutchinson, Ken Tomasetti and representing the Academic Senate, Sheila Murphy

Members unable to attend: Donata Martin

Present from the College: President Vander Hooven, Vice Presidents Rachel Frick Cardelle, John Eisler, Paul Hernandez, Robert LaBonte, Lea Ann Scales, Peter Sennett, Joseph Stiso, Executive Director Dan Horlander and Sr. Dean of Student Affairs, Jason Zelesky, Senator Brewer 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 3:14 p.m.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairman Antonioni called for a motion to approve the minutes of April 8, 2021. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Hutchinson and seconded by Ms. Gosselin. All approved. Motion carried.

C. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Chairman Antonioni
   o Chairman Antonioni thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Commended the president and administrative staff for all the good work coming out of MWCC. Also thanked the president for all his email updates on college business.

D. PRESIDENT’S REPORT – President Vander Hooven
   o The president thanked Chairman Antonioni and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
   o We are working through the sudden transition to the end of the restrictions that were in place for society as a whole. It was a surprise that it was this rapid.
   o Fall enrollment is looking good to this point given the circumstances
   o Thank you to our student trustee, Vanessa Hill, for her participation and congratulation to her. Her commencement speech was overwhelming. She has an incredible future ahead of her!
   o We have decided to move forward with a Diversity and Equity Inclusion position at the college – the job description is in redraft form with the committee
   o Jim acknowledged this is Vice President of Finance and Administration, Robert LaBonte’s, last official trustees meeting and thanked him for his invaluable assistance over the years to the board, college and to the community.

E. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM – INCLUDED IN PACKET
   o Chair Antonioni thanked the Leadership Team for their continued reports.

F. ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS OF THE DAY
   o AD – 1265 – Approval of Preliminary Budget – Vice President LaBonte presented the preliminary budget to the board (see attached). Chairman Antonioni asked for a motion to approve the budget. A motion was made by Ms. Gosselin and seconded by Ms. Hernandez. Motion passed.

G. OLD BUSINESS-CHAIRMAN ANTONIONI-NONE
H. NEW BUSINESS – REPOPULATION UPDATE - PRESIDENT VANDER HOOVEN
  o President Vander Hooven gave the board an update on the repopulation of the college.
  o Jim acknowledged our surprise that rollback from the state and the CDC was much quicker than expected.
  o We do have an MOA for the summer term that will be honored.
  o We will also honor the curriculum that has been set for the fall semester
  o The biggest impact on the spacing is with the labs
  o Mask mandate is lifted for outdoors but remain indoors
  o We remain vigilant that the student facing offices are able to meet our students’ needs
  o Through this whole pandemic we have committed on continuing to service our students and that remains our focus.

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. Hernandez and seconded by Ms. Gosselin. The meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Ann Meagher