

The 270th meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Mount Wachusett Community College  
Thursday, December 14, 2023  
Murphy Conference Room  
Meeting Minutes

- A. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Antonioni called the meeting to order at 8:31 AM.
- B. **ROLL CALL:**  
Present: Chair Robert Antonioni, Patti Bergstrom, Tracy Hutchinson, Rick Walton, and Justina Johnson  
  
Present via zoom: Claire Freda, Doug Petersen, Patricia Pistone and representing the Academic Senate, Sheila Murphy.  
  
Unable to attend: Denise Gosselin and Irene Hernandez  
  
Also, present from the College: President Vander Hooven (via zoom), many members of the Leadership Team and Executive Assistant Laurie Snoonian  
  
Many others joined via live stream on Vimeo
- C. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Chairman Antonioni asked for a motion to approve the minutes of October 26, 2023. Ms. Hutchinson made a motion to approve and Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.
- D. **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT** – Chairman Antonioni waived his time to President Vander Hooven for his President’s Report.
- E. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT** – President Vander Hooven
- a. Jim mentioned supplemental budget for last fiscal year was approved and signed by the governor.
  - b. Recognized the huge amount of effort from the business office and human resources to get increases in before the end of the year.
  - c. Enrollment continues to increase with spring semester currently being up 40% from last spring.
  - d. The Board of Education Dashboard has been updated –  
<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/mwcccoira/vizzes>
  - e. Jim recognized how overwhelming it has been for faculty and staff with all the new initiatives by the state. He emphasized that we need additional support and many factors to make our students successful.
  - f. Trustee Petersen asked what caused such a jump in enrollment. Although too soon to know, Jim stated the effort of our staff and faculty paying attention to the needs of our students, MassReconnect and focus on strategic plan are all part of it.
- F. **LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS** – Marcia Rosbury-Henne
- a. Marcia provided a brief overview of the trends in enrollment.
  - b. The headcount has gone from 700 to 2432 and applications from approximately 375 to 900, all compared to this time last spring.
  - c. There is a significant increase in new students coming in, but we are also retaining our current students for the spring.
  - d. MassReconnect, tuition equity for undocumented students, efforts in our local high schools and increased interest in all our healthcare programs are all contributing factors.

G. **MISSION/STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE** –

- a. At the recent leadership team meeting, Stephanie Williams reminded everyone the decision to emphasize racial equity in the strategic plan.
- b. Jim stated the need to be intentional about that work and ensuring that what we are doing is effectively addressing racial equity across the board.
- c. Individual meetings will be set up in the next week or two in order to refocus on elements of the strategic and operational plan.

H. **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS OF THE DAY**

- a. **AD – 1304 – Approval of FY25 Proposed Fee Schedule.** VP Quaye and Budget Coordinator Lemoi reviewed the fee increases and how they were calculated. Chairman Antonioni asked for a motion to approve the FY25 Proposed Fee Schedule. Ms. Hutchinson made a motion to approve and seconded by Mr. Walton. All approved. Motion carried.

I. **NEW BUSINESS** –

- J. **ADJOURNMENT** – Chair Antonioni asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Hutchinson and seconded by Ms. Johnson. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Snoonian