

The 254<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Mount Wachusett Community College  
Thursday, August 12, 2021  
Zoom  
Meeting Minutes

Members present: Robert Antonioni, Claire Freda, Denise Gosselin, Irene Hernandez, Cody Nathanson, Ken Tomasetti and representing the Academic Senate, Sheila Murphy

Members unable to attend: Jamy Gaynor, Tracy Hutchinson, Donata Martin

Present from the College: President Vander Hooven, Vice Presidents Rachel Frick Cardelle, John Eisler, Robert LaBonte, Lea Ann Scales, Peter Sennett, Joseph Stiso, Executive Director Dan Horlander, and Interim VP of Student Services, Jason Zelesky, Senator Brewer and Senior Staff Associate, Jo-Ann Meagher. There were many faculty and staff viewing the live Vimeo stream.

Cody Nathanson, student trustee, was sworn in just prior to the convening of the meeting.

- A. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Antonioni called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m.
- B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Chairman Antonioni called for a motion to approve the minutes of June 9, 2021. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Tomasetti and seconded by Ms. Gosselin. All approved. Motion carried.
- C. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Chairman Antonioni**
- 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 updates on college business.
- D. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – President Vander Hooven**
- First and foremost – “Welcome” to Cody Nathanson to the Mount Wachusett Community College Board of Trustees. Cody has done a great deal of work on the bookstore committee and he is to be commended for his diligent in keeping costs down for our students – “Thank you, Cody”
  - We successfully brought back the summer programs amid the restrictions with no incidents. It was great to see the kids on the campus having such a wonderful time.
  - Enrollments for the fall continue to be strong (up approximately 8%). But impossible to say where we will end up – thank you to all our enrollment team for pushing through all the obstacles in order to keep us on course and serving our students
  - Monday marked the resumption of in-person services to meet our students’ needs. Our marketing department took this opportunity to personally thank everyone at each of our campuses with a gift bag.
  - Fall will still be significantly remote
  - Although we are not seeking a vaccine mandate there could be specific programs that may require that
  - There are a lot of personnel changes. (official memos will be sent to the Board)
    - Associate VP of Academic Affairs, Dr. John Eisler, will be the Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs with the three academic deans reporting to him. Also reporting to him will be Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs, Missi Sargent, who will become the Dean of Academic Affairs
    - Senior Dean of Students, Jason Zelesky, will become the VP of Student Affairs and report directly to the President

- Dean of Business and Technology, Veronica Guay, will become the Dean of Math, Science, engineering, Business and Technology, and will relocate from the Leominster campus to the Gardner campus. Daily operations at the Leominster Campus will now be handled by Leominster Campus Director, Sabine Dupoux
- Director of Nursing, Kimberly Shea, will become the Dean of Nursing and report to Interim VP of Academic Affairs

**E. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM – PRESIDENT VANDER HOOVEN**

- The President announced that Sandra Quaye, from Franklin Pierce, of has accepted the position of VP of Finance and Administration
- Rachel Frick Cardelle will be leaving at the end of September. Her husband has accepted a presidency position at SUNY in upstate New York
- Adam Duggan will become the new Vice President of Workforce Development
- Jim will be bringing back the “Best Practices” meetings in an effort to help to support one another and to share what we can do better as a team. We are all doing what we can and it certainly is not easy and we have to have an eye toward empathy and humanity as we go through these uncharted times

**F. ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS OF THE DAY**

- **AD – 1266 Approval of Third Quarter Trust Fund** – Vice President LaBonte presented the Third Quarter Trust Fund to the board. Chairman Antonioni asked for a motion to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Trust Fund. A motion was made by Mr Tomasetti and seconded by Ms. Hernandez. Motion passed.
- **AD – 1267 Fiscal Year 2022 Budget** – Vice President LaBonte presented the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget to the board. Chairman Antonioni asked for a motion to approve the budget. A motion was made by Ms Freda and seconded by Mr Tomasetti. Motion passed.

**G. OLD BUSINESS-CHAIRMAN ANTONIONI-NONE**

**H. NEW BUSINESS –NEW DATE FOR THE DECEMBER BOT MEETING**

- We often have a conflict with the NECHE Annual Conference date
- A Doodle Poll will be sent out to determine best date for December Board of Trustees meeting.
- Statewide Board of Trustees Convening (virtual) will be on October 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am-12:00 pm – would be great to have as much board participation as possible

- 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 Mr Tomasetti and seconded by Ms Gosselin. The meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Ann Meagher