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The 215th meeting of the Board of Trustees of Mount Wachusett Community College was held on Thursday, February 12, 2015 in James D. Murphy Room. Members present: Chairperson Sbrega, Trustees, Cella, Clay, Daly, Dos Santos, Farias, Hawke (remotely), Howard, Landry, Stan and Tomasetti. Present from the College: President Asquino, Vice Presidents, Belrose, Fama, Labonte, McDonald, Ruksnaitis, Scales, Stiso, Dean Ialenti, Special Advisor Duncan and Executive Assistant Cox. Guests: Commissioner Richard Freeland, Jennifer Perkins, Director of Trustee Relations, Karen Kolimaga and Carla Zottoli,

Chairperson Sbrega called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

1. Chairperson Sbrega welcomed 3 new trustees who had just been sworn in: Suzanne Farias, Amanda Landry and Kenneth Tomasetti. Sheila Daly was sworn in for a second term.
2. Chairperson Sbrega spoke about the construction in progress throughout the building.
3. Ms. Sbrega recognized Trustee James Garrison, who is no longer on the Board because he has served his two five year terms. He has and always will be a dear friend of MWCC.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. President Asquino welcomed Commissioner Richard Freeland. Commissioner Freeland thanked members of the Board for their service as a Trustee and delivered an update regarding the new administration and dealing with the budget deficit. He commented that the current Legislature has been very supportive of the community colleges. Commissioner Freeland will be stepping down as Commissioner at the end of June and a search for a new commissioner is under way. He expressed a need to graduate more students with degrees and improve graduation rates. MWCC has improved their student success rate at 1.8% - one of the highest of the 15 community colleges. He expressed his appreciation, admiration and support for all that is being done here at MWCC. He commented on students taking remedial courses and remedial education and how important it is for those students needing the extra help on their path to a great education.

2. Budget - President Asquino noted his hope and intent is not to ask for the Trustees to approve a fee increase for 2016. We are awaiting the final numbers regarding the 2016 budget.
3. Updates regarding arming campus police - an updated report from Chief Karen Kolimaga, Campus Police and Public Safety was submitted to all Board members (see attached). Many comments and questions from Board members were addressed by Chief Kolimaga.

Chairperson Sbrega thanked the President for this report, and upon a motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED To approve the President's Report.

AD-1168 - Approval - First Quarter Trust Fund - FY 2015

VOTED To unanimously approve the First Quarter Trust Fund - FY 2015

AD-1169 - Approval - Second Quarter Trust Fund - FY 2015

VOTED To unanimously approve the Second Quarter Trust Fund - FY 2015

AD-1170 - Approval of MOU - Foundation

After much discussion and questions, it was decided to delay a vote on this matter to another meeting. Trustees were asked to send their questions/concerns to either Chairperson Sbrega or President Asquino to be addressed prior to the next meeting.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

1. Jennifer Perkins spoke about an upcoming Trustee Training event in March and April. All Board Members are invited to attend.
2. President Asquino's evaluation was sent to Commissioner Freeland. It was complete and thorough and goals were accomplished. Chairperson Sbrega thanked President Asquino for his service and all the great things that he does for the college.

3. Next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 2, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business coming before the Board, and upon a motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED To adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

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