

Onondaga Community College Board of Trustees
Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 28, 2020
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Whitney 210
Presiding: Trustee John Sindoni, Chair

Trustees: Jaime Alicea; Dr. Donna DeSiato; Melanie Littlejohn; Paul Mello; Tara Owens; Eleanor Petrucco; John Sindoni; Neil Strodel; Mark Tryniski

Staff: Stephanie Aldrich; Dr. Agatha Awuah; Michael Borsz; Nancy Carr; Frank Cetera; Dr. Casey Crabill; Dr. Gerardo Cummings; Kathleen D'Aprix; Anne DeLand; Dr. Kerry Evans; Karen Fabrizio; Dwight Fischer; Sarah Gaffney; Dr. Glenda Gross; Julie Hart; Linda Kelley; Amy Kremenek; Kelly Larrivey; Mark Manning; Roger Mirabito; Ryan Nellenback; Erin Newton; Carol Obernesser; Michael O'Connor; Gail O'Hara; Meghan Peryea; Amy Proulx; Bridget Scholl; Dr. Scott Schuhert; Anne Marie Smith; Timothy Stedman; Nina Tamrowski; James Taylor; Dr. Christopher Thuot; Susan Tormey; Anastasia Urtz; Eunice Williams; Steffani Williams

Guests: Jonathan Miller; Shelby Reeves

Call to Order

At 9:02 a.m., Trustee Sindoni called the board meeting to order.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Trustee Sindoni requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. **On motion by Trustee Strodel and seconded by Trustee Owens, the consent agenda was unanimously approved.**

President's Report

***Council for Diversity & Inclusion Equity Statement**

Trustee Sindoni introduced Dr. Casey Crabill, President, to provide her report. Dr. Crabill introduced Dr. Glenda Gross, Co-chair for the Council for Diversity & Inclusion, to provide a timeline of events surrounding the development of the Equity Statement, and then asked for Board approval of the same.

On motion by Trustee Owens and seconded by Trustee Littlejohn, the Council for Diversity & Inclusion's Equity Statement was unanimously approved.

***Resolution to Appoint Thanh Nguyen and Reappoint Michael Borsz, Lori Dietz, Mark Godleski, Patrick Piscitelli and Joseph Rufo as Directors of the Onondaga Community College Housing Development Corporation**

On motion by Trustee Owens and seconded by Trustee Alicea, the resolution to appoint Thanh Nguyen and reappoint Michael Borsz, Lori Dietz, Mark Godleski, Patrick Piscitelli and Joseph Rufo as Directors of the Onondaga Community College Housing Development Corporation was unanimously approved.

*Resolution to Approve May 15, 2021 as the date of the 58th Commencement Ceremony for Onondaga Community College

On motion by Trustee DeSiato and seconded by Trustee Owens, the resolution to approve May 15, 2021 as the date of the 58th Commencement Ceremony for Onondaga Community College was unanimously approved.

Other Updates

Dr. Crabill continued her report with additional updates. She explained that a recent directive from SUNY states that all students, faculty and staff that are on campus need to be tested weekly. Through the leadership of Sarah Gaffney, Vice President of Finance, and Dr. Sean Vormwald, Director of Sustainability & Environmental Health & Safety, a schedule to test 3,900 people a week has been developed beginning on February 8, the first day of in-person instruction on campus. The semester actually begins on February 1, but the first week will be remote so we have more time to prepare for the testing that begins the following week. We are in constant conversation with SUNY Upstate, not only for assistance with the testing, but also to track the cases in Onondaga County to ensure we can continue to operate safely. Residence Hall students have already returned and are quarantining in their respective dorms. They have had two rounds of testing with only two positive cases. Any students that test positive are moved to Shapero Hall to quarantine and those that may have been exposed are moved to Residence Hall B. Dr. Crabill continued by saying that faculty return to campus this week and we are watching enrollment closely. It continues to decline and we are trending the same as many of the other SUNY community colleges. Budget development continues to be a struggle as the State and the County are focused on federal relief, but we are hopeful that additional assistance from the State might be available in the upcoming budget cycle. We have made the difficult decision to cancel spring sports as we need to be prioritizing educational programs first. We hope to be able to allow conditioning in the near future for student athletes. Dr. Crabill continued by saying that the search for the new provost continues. The pool of candidates has been narrowed down to 4 who will be brought to campus for both in-person interviews and virtual meetings.

Committee Reports

Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee

No report at this time.

Education Committee

No report at this time.

OCC Foundation

Trustee Sindoni introduced Trustee Strodel to provide an update on the OCC Foundation. Trustee Strodel stated many milestones have been achieved since the last board meeting in November. OCC Alumna Diana Robertson (class of 1977) and her husband Drew made a \$100,000 gift in December. The purpose of the Robertson's gift is to support teaching and professional development in applied writing, specifically the importance of writing in all career fields. The Institute for Supply Management of Greater Syracuse made a \$45,000 gift that provides a \$2,000 annual award for an OCC student interested in a career in a supply chain field such as inventory management, purchasing, or a related field. The OCC Foundation would also like to recognize National Grid and Melanie Littlejohn for their support of the OCC Student-Navigator program. National Grid's gift of \$25,000 will support a full-time Student-Navigator to

assist the approximately 500 student-parents who attend OCC each semester, a group that has been particularly hard-hit during the pandemic. Also, the Foundation's year-end gift appeal was distributed in December to donors, alumni, and friends of the college. The appeal raised \$23,000 in support of OCC students. We would like to thank the Trustees for their generous support of the OCC Foundation both at year-end and throughout the year. On February 1st, Maureen O'Neill Fellows, who recently retired from SUNY-ESF, will join the OCC Foundation as Major Gifts Officer. Last but not least, following on the success of the virtual dinner in November, the OCC Foundation host its second virtual fundraiser – this time it's "Whiskey and Wisdom," featuring tastings of local food and whiskeys in partnership with Kitty Hoynes and three Central New York distilleries. Mark your calendar for Friday, February 26th at 6 p.m. More information on tickets (both with and without whiskey) will be sent out later today.

Student Government Update

Student Trustee Eleanor Petrucco provided an update on student activities across campus. Trustee Petrucco explained that even though students are in quarantine in the residence halls, resident assistants are coming up with creative ways to keep them engaged. Student Government has finalized their list of officers for the upcoming semester and PTK just completed their Honors in Action program. PTK officers will meet soon with Dr. Crabill to discuss their college project for the spring semester. Unity Day, a day-long celebration at the College, will now be held over the course of a few weeks to allow for more student participation.

Chair's Report

Honorary Degree, Founder's, and Trustee Award Nominations

Trustee Sindoni reminded Trustees that it is time for nominations for the Honorary Degree, Founder's and Trustee Awards. Any suggestions should be sent to Julie Hart by February 26, 2021.

Board Retreat – April 23, 2021

Trustee Sindoni commented that the date for the Board of Trustees spring retreat is scheduled for **April 23, 2021**. He anticipates a ½ day program to allow for an in-depth look at the budget.

Audit Presentation by The Bonadio Group

Trustee Sindoni introduced Mark Manning, Chief Financial Officer, who, in turn, introduced Jonathan Miller and Shelby Reeves from The Bonadio Group. Mr. Miller presented the 2020 OCC annual financial audit and explained the responsibilities of the audit firm and the findings of the same. Various tests and assessments were performed and it was noted that the firm found no material weaknesses or deficiencies, and that business systems are operating effectively and that the financial information the Board of Trustees regularly receives is appropriate.

*Receipt of the 2020 Onondaga Community College Audit

On motion by Dr. DeSiato and seconded by Trustee Littlejohn, receipt of the 2020 Onondaga Community College Audit was unanimously approved.

Executive Session

At 10:02 a.m., Trustee Sindoni called for a motion to enter into Executive Session under the provisions of Section 105, Article 7f of the Public Officers Law to discuss financial matters. **On motion by Trustee Alicea and seconded by Trustee Owens, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved a motion to enter into Executive Session.**

At 10:30 a.m., on motion by Trustee Alicea and seconded by Trustee Owens, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved a motion to move out of Executive Session and return to the board meeting.

There being no further business, Trustee Sindoni adjourned the board meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Prepared by:

Julie Hart
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Submitted by:

John Sindoni
Chair, Board of Trustees