



Ratified at September 22, 2021 meeting

**Board of Trustees Meeting
June 16, 2021**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Westchester Community College held on Wednesday, June 16, 2021, at 3 PM via zoom video conference.

Trustees Present:

Hon. John Nonna, Chairperson, Dr. LeRoy Mitchell, Vice-Chairperson, Robin Bikkal, Esq., Susan Gerry, Dr. Norman Jacknis, Deborah Raizes, Dr. Gregory Robeson Smith, and Yolanda Howell, Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

Trustees Excused:

Hon. Lyndon Williams

Cabinet Members Present:

Dr. Belinda S. Miles, President, Dr. Vanessa Morest, Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs, Dr. Shawn Brown, Chief of Staff and Vice President of Strategic Operations, Brian Murphy, Vice President and Dean of Administrative Services, Dolores Swirin Yao, Vice President and Dean, External Affairs, Executive Director, WCC Foundation, Anthony Scordino, Vice President, Information Technology, Tere Wisell, Vice President and Dean, Continuing Education and Workforce Development, & Student Access, Involvement, & Success.

Call to Order

Chairperson John Nonna called the meeting to order.

Ratification of Minutes

Trustee Mitchell made a motion seconded by Trustee Bikkal to ratify the minutes of the May 19, 2021 Board meeting. The motion passed.

INFORMATION AND DECISION

A. President's Report

Dr. Belinda S. Miles reported:

President Miles gave updates on the following:

- We have completed another academic year at Westchester Community College
 - Highlights for June
 - Celebrating PRIDE month
 - Our Jack Kent Cooke scholar is headed to Harvard
 - Beacon Conference went well
 - HIS Stem proposal was submitted to the Department of Education
 - I met with members of Congressman Mondaire Jones office
 - We spoke about how we would like to help students realize that higher education is a valuable pathway toward their individual development as well as their ability to sustain their lives and their families.
 - I would like to congratulate our new SGA President Gabriella Quartey
 - We are working on steps for the next academic year.
 - We will be having a town hall next Wednesday at 2 pm

The Board and attendees then viewed a video titled "What we do Matters." The video was created by the Westchester Community College Center for Teaching and Learning.

B. Board Chair's Report

Trustee Nonna reported:

I am grateful for the privilege of serving as chair. This is my last meeting as chair. As chair and as a trustee we see our roles as stewards for the college. We get to see and observe all that you do to help our students achieve the success that we saw in the video. Our students can hold their own at any IVY league college

Westchester Magazine has named Dr. Belinda Miles and Eridania Camacho, Westchester Power Players. As far as I am concerned all of you are power players. This year has been especially challenging for our students, faculty, and staff. When I think of the future, our job and the job of the college is to support and guide the students as they define their goals and seek to implement them. One of the things that I would like to emphasize is that I believe that it is important that we develop

our students to become informed and engaged citizens that can navigate the justice issues in our society, (gender, economic, racial, disability) so that they know how to exercise their rights and they know how to achieve change in a non-violent peaceful way and make democracy succeed.

I am not leaving the board. I will remain a trustee. I am handing the torch to a well deserving chair-elect Dr. LeRoy Mitchell who has been a long-time member of this board and importantly has been a nationally recognized leader in the Association of Community College Trustees. He is the first immigrant and person of color to hold this role. LeRoy, I wish you the best of luck and I look forward to working with you as our leader on the board.

C. Committees

Governance

Trustees Robeson Smith and Raizes reported:

Trustee Raizes

As co-chair of the governance committee I would like to thank John Nonna for his many years of service on the board and we look forward to LeRoy Mitchell as our next chair.

The Governance committee had discussion on the following topics.

- Board retreat to be held on July 17, 2021
- Role of Student Trustee
- Role of Faculty in coming to our meeting
- Parliamentary procedure for the Board

Trustee Robeson Smith

Thank you, John Nonna, for your wonderful work and service on the board.

Program Committee Report

Trustee Jacknis reported:

Thank you to John Nonna for your enthusiasm for the work that we do.

We welcomed SGA members at our meeting today

The Program committee had discussion on the following topics.

- Fall enrollment numbers
- Student Communications
 - An internal audit is being conducted to see what the best way is to communicate with students
 - Viking weekly newsletter will be sent out once a week to students
 - Improving the website

Finance/Facilities

Trustee Mitchell reported:

John Nonna, I would like to join the chorus of thanking you profoundly for having led this institution for the last few years. I have learned quite a bit from you. You are a tremendous asset to this board. I hope that I will be able to follow in your footsteps and emulate some of the principles, polices, and ideas that you have brought forth in the past.

The Finance committee had discussion on the following topics.

- Operating forecast
- Capital projects update
- Contracts

We have submitted our budget to the county

Trustee Mitchell asked Vice President Brian Murphy to go over the forecast for the month ending May 31, 2021 and the contracts.

Vice President Murphy presented the contracts to the Board.

Resolution: Contract Ratification

WHEREAS, *Westchester Community College is required to enter into agreements for the continued operation of the College; and*

WHEREAS, *the attached schedule represents those agreements approved by the College since the last meeting of the Board of Trustees; therefore*

BE IT RESOLVED, *that the Board of Trustees of Westchester Community College hereby ratifies the aforementioned agreements.*

<u>CONTRACT #</u>	<u>CONTRACTOR NAME</u>	<u>CONTRACT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
21-0130-495-AA	City School District Of New Rochelle	Payment for dual enrollment tuition/ College credit courses held at New Rochelle High School.	9/1/20 –6/30/21	\$9,456.12 (Revenue)
21-0310-625-SPS	Debbie Grandinetti	Addendum to contract for sign language Interpreting service required for deaf student. Services provided in excess of "NTE \$14,135". Federal mandate due to COVID. Only contracted interpreter available to provide services for deaf students' classes during term 1/1/21 – present.	1/1/20 – 12/31/22	\$28,405 (\$14,270 increase)
21-0155-622-AA	Paul T. Bucci, PhD, LLC	Grants consulting and writing service. Renewal of contract. Exercise 1 st of 3 one year options.	8/1/21 – 7/31/22	\$27,500
21-0155-623-AA	Resource Development Services	Grants consulting and writing service. Renewal of contract. Exercise 1 st of 3 one year options.	8/30/21 – 8/29/22	\$30,000
21-TBD- -AA	Narcisa, Inc.	BOT retreat facilitator for July 17, 2021.	7/17/21	\$11,000
21-0240-624-FAC	Jet-Black of Westchester	Crack filling repair in lots 4, 8 and 11	8/1/21 – 11/1/21	\$20,385
210-240-496-FAC	Start Elevator LLC	Repair/replace two elevator support springs in the elevator pit at the Library.	8/1/21 – 12/31/21	\$7,880

****Motion: Mitchell/Gerry – all in favor**

RESOLUTION

Waive Application Fee for Low-Income Applicants

WHEREAS, students who are eligible for fee waivers are often deterred from even applying to college due burdensome multiple steps to prove eligibility, as well as misunderstanding or confusion about eligibility for fee waivers.; and

WHEREAS, State University of New York Chancellor Jim Malatras announced the elimination of application fees for high school seniors from low-income households applying to SUNY campuses in order to break down barriers and empower students no matter their economic status or background, especially as a vast majority of all new jobs created requires some post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, "low income" has been defined as those students who financially qualify for free or reduced-price lunch programs, whose household income does not exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, or are from foster families; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of Westchester Community College fully supports breaking down barriers for low income students and the proposed application fee waiver will represent an important addition to the roster of access and opportunities

Westchester Community College already provides its diverse community; and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Westchester Community College hereby authorizes the waiver of the Westchester Community College application fee for all low-income students

****Motion: Robeson Smith/Gerry – all in favor**

Public Comment

Trustee Nonna invited members of the community for public comment

1. Sheldon Malev addressed the board
 - Thanks to John Nonna for being board chair and for taking the time to come to Faculty Senate Environmental meetings
 - Sheldon Malev read his statement regarding professor emeritus and the newsletter for retired faculty.

Adjournment

****Motion: Robeson Smith/Jacknis – all in favor.**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for September 22, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Yolanda Howell

Yolanda Howell
Secretary, Board of Trustees