



Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Room 2109, David C. Briegel

8 a.m. Regular Meeting

General Business

Members of the Southwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees met on September 8, 2021 for a regularly scheduled meeting.

The meeting was convened at 8:00 a.m. by Board Chairman Tom Jerdon.

Members Present: Tom Jerdon, Bill White, Beth Cripe, Dr. Elaine Foster, Becky Moore, Tracy Hertsel, Keith McKenzie

Members Absent: None

Minutes of the June 9, 2021 regular convened meeting required no changes and were placed on file.

Tom Jerdon moved, seconded by Tracy Hertsel, to amend the agenda, adding Bid Openings for Zollar Renovation Project as Item 3A. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Input

No individual requested to speak.

Other

Construction bids were received from E & L Construction Group, Gibson-Lewis, LLC and Pearson Construction for the Zollar Renovation Project. A supportive bid for the bleachers was submitted by Irwin Seating Company.

The Treasurer's Report for the months ending June 30, 2021, July 31, 2021 and August 31, 2021 were received and placed on file.

Dr. Odenwald provided a new format for the President's Report: Excellence at SMC Report, Volume I.

Dr. Odenwald noted that enrollment for fall semester is equal to one year ago with 1,813 students enrolled.

Maria Kulka, Educational Talent Search Director, reported that the first year of funding under the FY2021 grant award cycle commenced on September 1, 2021, and the award is anticipated to continue for five years, ending August 31, 2026. The annual award is \$365,010 and the net award amount is \$1,825,050. The Educational Talent Search has been an active program at SMC for 30 years.

Dr. Karen Reilly, Dean, School of Business and Advanced Technology, reported that SMC received the Carl D. Perkins V grant and the Michigan Learning and Education Advancement Program (MiLEAP) grant. The

Perkins grant for \$149,800, is awarded annually to community colleges and funding is based on student course loads (FTE) in each of the state's recognized occupational programs. The MiLEAP grant is a \$2,000,000 grant awarded a consortium consisting of the Berrien-Cass-Van Buren Workforce Development, Lake Michigan College, and Southwestern Michigan College in 2021.

Katie Hannah, Dean of Student Development, shared information regarding the Michigan College Access Network (MCAN) program which trains and places coaches on college campuses throughout Michigan. SMC is 1 of 16 community college host sites and provides a \$10,000 yearly cost sharing to fund the coach's salary. The program serves students who are first-generation, low-income, and /or students of color, with a focus on college persistence and completion. In addition, Katie Hannah reported that SMC is the recipient of the Michigan College Access Network & Labor and Economic Opportunity Grant for \$82,000. The grant will provide resources to identify local, in-demand careers for adult students and assist students with making informed decisions about the programs of study and credentials that lead to jobs that pay a living wage.

Bill Mathews, Admissions Counselor, reported on the formation of the SMC Bass Fishing Team. The club sport team is scheduled to compete in 2022 with the recruitment of 8-10 students. Given this is not an NJCAA team, no action is required by the Board.

Discussion Items

Trustees were presented with the 2021-2022 full-time faculty list stipulating 48 full-time positions.

Trustees reviewed the list of gifts given to the Foundation, with 18 individual donations for a grand total in the amount of \$52,870.

Action Items

Tracy Herstel moved, seconded by Dr. Elaine Foster, to have the administration review and accept the low bid that meets specifications for the Zollar Renovation Project. Motion passed unanimously.

Becky Moore moved, seconded by Tracy Herstel, to approve the Strategic Value to the Community Resolution (attachment 5B). Motion passed unanimously.

Beth Cripe moved, seconded by Becky Moore, to accept the appointment to the Foundation Board. Motion passed unanimously.

Keith McKenzie moved, seconded by Bill White, to accept with gratitude the gifts shown in attachment 5D, with 11 individual donations in the amount of \$231,717.10. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of Follow-up Requests

No follow-up requests were made of the administration.

Adjournment

Becky Moore moved to adjourn at 9:20 a.m. Tracy Hertsel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.



Beth Cripe, Secretary



Thomas F. Jerdon, Chairman