

Chicago State University
Virtual Special Board of Trustees Meeting
Via GoToWebinar
Board Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2020
3:00 P.M. - 5:10

Board Members Present

Trustee Andrea Zopp, Chair
Trustee McDade, Vice Chair
Trustee Mark Schneider, Secretary
Trustee Mobley Smith
Trustee Brian Clay

Board Members Not Present

Trustee Louis Carr

Others Present

President Zaldwaynaka (Z) Scott, Esq.
Darrious Hilmon, Executive Director, CSU Foundation
Stephanie Kelly, Esq., General Counsel and Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer
Mark Las, Chief Information Officer
Larry Owens, Interim CFO
Bonnie Phillips, Director of Board Relations
Dr. Leslie Roundtree, Provost and Senior Vice President

1. Call to Order

Chair Zopp called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was verified and roll call was taken.

Due to circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, and pursuant to Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-07, issued on March 16, 2020, suspending the Open Meetings Act provisions relating to in-person attendance by members of a public body, the July 27, 2020 special meeting of the Chicago State University Board of Trustees is being conducted virtually and is hereby called to order.

3. Verification of Meeting Notice

The meeting notice was posted as mandated by the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

4. Approval of Agenda

Roll call was held for approval of the agenda. The agenda was approved.

5. Public and Employee Comment

The Board will not hear presentations or entertain questions on the following topics: issues under negotiation as part of the University's collective bargaining process, statements concerning the private

activities, lifestyles, or beliefs of individuals employed by or associated with the University, grievances of individual students or employees or any personnel matters. Ms. Phillips, please call those who have signed up for public comment.

Allen Walker (No Response).

Ms. Anita Holmes stated the following:

She wants the record to reflect that I love my mother's alma mater. Soon to be mine, and 10 or 20 years from now, I want it to still be standing and educating students from all across the world.

Ms. Holmes stated friends and colleagues have reached out to her asking about CSU, she cringes to herself, and then encourage them to come, or send their children, especially with the pandemic going on. A lot of parents are concerned about their children going far away from home. Ms. Holmes stated that Chicago State is a great school; but, what concerns her is getting that phone call, text or e-mail about why I did not warn them about CSU issues.

Ms. Holmes expressed her concern with the elimination and communication around the baseball program being eliminated. She does not want what happened to the baseball team to happen to any other student; having to hear them talk about the sleepless nights and scramble to put their lives back together. Ms. Holmes state no one considered how this would affect them, especially, two people she thought would have considered them, Trustees Clay and McDade. She reiterated the importance of communication, transparency, accountability, and ethical practices.

Ms. Holmes asked that the board table or delay the vote on resolutions that deal with tuition and budgets until there is a student trustee in place and stated the members of the student body do not have a representative in place and that is an infringement on the rights as students. She noted that CSU is the only state school that did not do a proper student election, therefore, the last election should be considered to keep the same student trustee in place, to ensure that students have representation. We should have proper representation as our accrediting agency requires us to have.

Ms. Holmes spoke about the university's tendency to not communicate on student issues, but move quickly on hiring, firing, and spending budgets.

6. Reports

Academic Affairs

Trustee McDade presides.

Trustee McDade called Dr. Roundtree to present the resolutions.

Action Items

a. Tenure Resolution

Dr. Roundtree stated that Dr. Steven Rowe is recommended for conferment of Tenure based on input from the faculty and chairperson in the department, the dean of the college in which the faculty member is employed, and, for faculty members, the University Personnel Committee. Dr. Roundtree gave an overview of Dr. Rowe's qualifications.

Dr. Steven Rowe, Professor of History, Department of Geography/Sociology/History/Anthropology and African American Studies, College of Arts and Sciences.

Trustee McDade moved to approve the Tenure Resolution. Trustee Clay seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

b. Waiver of GRE GMAT Testing for Graduate Admissions Resolution

Dr. Roundtree stated that we are requesting a temporary waiver for the Admission Standards, the Graduate Record Exam and the Graduate Management Admission Exam, which is a requirement for admission to at least 2 or 3 of our current graduate programs. The testing centers were closed initially due to the pandemic, and they have only briefly re-opened. And in that re-opening, there is such a backlog that students are not able to take their admissions testing. We are asking that we temporarily for the fall of 2020 allow a temporary waiver for the Admission Standards, the Graduate Record Exam and the Graduate Management Admission Exam. This resolution has been sent forward to the Faculty Senate, and who has reviewed it.

Trustee McDade moved to approve the Waiver of GRE GMAT Testing for Graduate Admissions Resolution. Trustee Zopp seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

c. College of Education Tuition Resolution

Dr. Roundtree stated that the College of Education is requesting to provide a discount tuition for three programs, bilingual education, special education and early childhood endorsements. Endorsement programs are further teachers who already have a license to teach, who are now interested in moving into another specialty area. We would be joining a group of many schools who have created this opportunity in order to fill the high need positions that are currently vacant in those three specialty areas.

Trustee Schneider asked about the projected financial consequences of the reduction in tuition. Dr. Roundtree stated that projection could be as small as a couple of thousand dollars, however no more than \$20K, if a large group joined that class.

Trustee McDade moved to approve the College of Education Tuition Resolution. Trustee Zopp seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

d. International Student Tuition Resolution

Dr. Roundtree stated that this resolution is a temporary request for the upcoming 2020-21 year. It is very difficult for international students to currently to get visas to enter into our country. In order to address the needs of international students who are interested in starting their program at Chicago State University, we would like to offer that any student entering for 2020-21 would be able to receive our domestic tuition rates versus our international tuition rates.

Trustee Schneider asked about the financial consequences related to this resolution. He noted that this is the first time the board has been briefed on this proposal. Dr. Roundtree agreed that this is the first time that the board has been made aware of this proposal. She stated that after discussions with the graduate dean and many of the responses we are getting from our international students, we felt there was a need to address their concerns. Many of them are deferring their admissions because of the lack

of the visa or the ability to get a visa. In discussing with our office of global engagement it appears that the issue is not going to let up for the fall. So we wanted to move forward on this. Larry Owens stated that based on the standard nine credit hours, he estimates that it would be an impact of approximately \$107,000.

Trustee Schneider ask if this would apply to international student currently in the country or would it apply whether or not the students are in the United States or unable to travel to the United States because of the restrictions. Dr. Roundtree stated that it would only apply to the new students who are coming for this fall, not our continuing students.

Trustee Schneider asked If somebody is already in the United States and planning to enroll at the university, are they receiving the benefit of this discount or does it only apply to those who are unable because of the visa restrictions to enter the United States and to be present on campus. Dr. Roundtree stated that it would apply to both.

Trustee McDade moved to approve the International Student Tuition Resolution. Trustee Zopp seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 3

Nays: 1 (Trustee Schneider)

End of the Academic and Student Affairs action items.

Finance and Audit Committee

Trustee Schneider presides.

Larry Owens presents the FY 2021 Mandatory Fees Resolution.

Larry Owens stated as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), the university was forced to migrate from traditional on campus instruction, to an e-learning format, in March 2020. Fall 2020 instruction primarily will be within the e-learning environment, thus limiting the number of classes to be held in person on campus. As a result, the University acknowledges that mandatory fees as originally set, may not be properly aligned with benefits accruing to students, or the ultimate costs to be incurred by the University.

Trustee Schneider moved to approve the FY2021 Mandatory Fees Resolution. Trustee Zopp seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Mark Las presents the Information Technology Contract Resolution for Campus Network, Security, and Datacenter Enhancements Resolution.

Mark Las stated that the campus network is approximately nine years old, and about 50% of it is end of life. The remaining equipment will be end of life in January of 2021 meaning that and as of January 2021 we will no longer be able to purchase support from the manufacturer. Mr. Las explained that we are in dire need of replacing this equipment, our campus network, which runs all computer operations on campus, both administrative and academic. Mr. Las gave an overview of the resolution.

Chair Zopp asked if all procurement procedures were followed. Mark Las stated that we have met all the requirements for the State of Illinois for procurement purposes and we are working specifically with the Illinois Public Higher Education Co-operative. We are sourcing these products through approved vendors following all the state rules around ethics and compliance.

A discussion was held regarding diversity goals.

Chair Zopp asked if the approximately \$552K being approved today has any diversity benefits. Mr. Las stated that it does not, because we have to purchase through approved value-added resellers who are partners with the State. These are essentially commodities that we are buying from large organizations. There is a no way to really source them through the procurement system through a minority partner at this time.

Chair Zopp asked about the equipment and the \$100K maintenance spend. Mr. Las stated that the hardware or the commodities are being sourced directly through Fortinet, which is about \$347,000 of this deal. This spend will stay with Fortinet. Maintenance on all the equipment is provided by the manufacturer.

Chair Zopp asked about sourcing to diversity partners. Mark Las stated that some items (hardware and services) are able to source them through a partner that meets diversity requirements. It is about \$150K.

Trustee Schneider moved to approve the Information Technology Contract for Campus Network, Security, and Datacenter Enhancements Resolution. Trustee Zopp seconded the motion. The motion passed via roll call as follows: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

This ends the Finance and Audit Action items.

Chicago State Foundation Update

Chair Zopp called Darrious Hilmon to give the Chicago State Foundation update.

Darrious Hilmon presented the Chicago State University Foundation (“foundation”) FY19-20 Performance Report.

- Work Rooted in Strategy

Mr. Hilmon stated that all of our work is rooted in strategy, every day, so it allows us to take on new opportunity. But the entire first year was really focused on infrastructure.

Mr. Hilmon discussed the foundation’s FY19-20 Strategic Plan’s nine goals. The key components of our strategy was operational efficiency, building from the ground up processes, procedures, active donor engagement, putting together formalized annual guilds, database mining, consistent and meaningful engagement with our alum, and other stakeholders.

Then, beginning the work that we're going to expand exponentially this year, building a culture of philanthropy at all levels of the university, including our incredible faculty and staff. If you look at Financial Goals, we had a total income goal for the foundation of \$1.5M.

The 1st Gen Gala - We have a goal of \$500M, as you know, COVID-19 just push the gala into the next fiscal year. So, the numbers we are going to discuss do not include that half million dollars that we expect to come here.

- Engaged Board of Directors

We have since added nine new Board of Directors bringing the total member to 19. As part of our strategy for the year for every board member, about 98% of our board made a give of a total of \$137,000.

- Build Sustainable Corporate and Foundation Partnerships

Mr. Hilmon discussed funds that have been received from donors and various partnerships including; \$1 million dollars from the Green Leaf Avenue Foundation for our Childcare Center, Anonymous Foundation \$150,000, My Choice Foundation \$150,000, and Fulk Family Foundation \$50,000. Relativity, gave a personal gift from the Chair and his wife's personal Foundation, and they promised meeting with Relativity and a visit to the school. Mr. Hilmon spoke about meetings or potential meetings/partnership with JP Morgan Chase, Guaranteed Rate, Guggenheim, Crown Family Philanthropy and AT&T.

- Alumni and Community Engagement

Ninety-Eight new members of the Alumni Association, the goal this year, was to really stabilize and give dedicated support to the Alumni Association with some good success.

Hosted the first Annual Alumni Meeting in three years.

Engaged twelve alumni leaders in visioning, program planning and implementation conversations.

Every Thursday we spotlight an alum or future alum. Trustee Clay will be featured. We do every week.

Another piece of our alumni community engagement is the Chicago State Foundation Presents, which is an ongoing series of "kitchen table" talks. Even moving into virtual, the number of attendees increase each time.

Mr. Hilmon stated that the foundation wanted to bring in \$1.5M of income. We have managed to bring in \$2.5M in total income. We know that last year, the foundation was in a holding, simply managing entitlement.

Mr. Hilmon stated that for our university partner, our only client we have done the following:

Nearly \$1M in scholarship and programmatic support scholarships - Nearly \$500K for University Support, \$400K in programs (which includes Rise Academy), and the Student Scholar Emergency Fund, which we have disbursed \$62K. Also as part of long term strategy. We wanted the emergency plan because the needs of our first generation and non-traditional students are not going to change.

Mr. Hilmon stated growing this year from \$2.5M to next year, just under \$3.5M is a possibility. We have hired a new director of major gifts who has a history of getting 5, 6, and 7 figure gifts. We are also bringing on a new director of alumni affairs. In spite of the crisis we feel that the University and the Foundation's position to support President Scott and the University is stronger than ever.

Chair Zopp stated that \$2.5 million is incredibly impressive.

The Chicago Foundation Board of Directors approved A budget. That included a proposed fee for service, \$440,000 from the University. Additionally, consistent with the rate last year, there was no change here. This is an in kind support

Trustee Zopp moved to approve the CSU Foundation Contract. Trustee Clay seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

7. Recess into Executive Session Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Trustee Zopp moved to recess into Executive Session. Trustee Mobley Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows: **Ayes 4 Nays 0**

8. Reconvene into Open Session

Trustee Zopp moved to reconvene into Open Session. Trustee McDade seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows: **Ayes 4 Nays 0**

Chair Zopp stated that the Board took no action in executive session that required action in open session.

9. Adjournment

The July 27, 2020 special meeting of the Chicago State University Board of Trustees was Adjourned.