Board of Governors of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education Meeting Minutes

277th Meeting Thursday, August 13, 2020

Via Zoom

10:00 a.m.

ATTENDING

Board of Governors:

Representative Timothy P. Briggs
Alexander H. Fefolt
Donald E. Houser, Jr.
David M. Maser (Vice Chair)
Thomas S. Muller
Noe Ortega (designee for Secretary Rivera)
Representative Brad Roae
Senator Judith L. Schwank
Cynthia D. Shapira (Chair)
Samuel Smith (Vice Chair)
Secretary Meg Snead
Stephen L. Washington, Jr.
Neil R. Weaver

In attendance was (non-voting) Board Faculty Liaison, Jamie L. Phillips.

Audrey F. Bronson, Nicole L. Dunlop, Marian Moskowitz, Senator Scott Martin, Janet Yeomans, and Secretary of Education Pedro A. Rivera were absent.

Chairwoman Shapira called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Attendance taken at the direction of Chairwoman Shapira established that a quorum of the Board was present.

OPENING REMARKS

Chairwoman Shapira recognized the accomplishments of Secretary Pedro Rivera on the Board, who will be stepping down in the next month to take another position, and congratulated Mr. Noe Ortega, who was nominated by Governor Wolf to replace Dr. Rivera as Secretary of Education.

The Board held a workshop on July 15 and will meet briefly in executive session at the end of this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

REMARKS BY UNION LEADERS

APSCUF President - Dr. Jamie Martin SCUPA President - Dr. Todd Spaulding

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

a. Sexual Misconduct Policy 2020-01. This policy was reviewed by Andrew Lehman, Chief Counsel and Suzanne Williamson, University Counsel.

Chairwoman Shapira MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY EFFECTIVE AUGUST 14, 2020.

Voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Amorous Relationships Policy 2020-02. This policy was reviewed by Chief Counsel Andrew Lehman and Suzanne Williamson, University Counsel. The policy was developed by a sub-committee of the Commission of Presidents. The Presidents recommends approval of the policy. For clarification, this policy is separate and distinct from policies on minors.

Chairwoman Shapira MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE AMAROUS RELATIONSHIPS POLICY EFFECTIVE AUGUST 14, 2020.

Voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Authorization for Disposition of the Dixon University Center. Sharon Minnich, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, reviewed the item in detail as presented in the Board materials.

Chairwoman Shapira MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR'S REQUEST TO PROCEED WITH THE DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE DIXON UNIVERSITY CENTER THROUGH LEASE OR SALE.

Voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Authorization for Disposition of Porreco facility at Edinboro University. Ms. Sharon Minnich, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, reviewed the item in detail as presented in the Board materials.

Chairwoman Shapira MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES EDINBORO UNIVERSITY'S REQUEST TO PROCEED WITH THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROPERTY AT 2951 WEST 38TH STREET, MILLCREEK TOWNSHIP AND RESULTING PROCEEDS REMAIN WITH THE UNIVERSITY.

Voice vote. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Senator Judith Schwank shared a recent article from an investigative report from Spotlight PA, dated August 6, titled, "Condem, Discuss, Repeat". Suggested adding this topic to future agendas.

Chair Shapira acknowledged the article and noted that issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion will be the focus of a forthcoming board commission.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Governors met in Executive Session from 11:15 a.m. to 11:57 a.m. following the Board meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

ATTEST:
Randy A. Goin Jr., Ph.D.
Deputy Chancellor

The meeting webcast is available here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8BELoWpdxIg&t=2605s