

**SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Board of Trustee Regular
Monday, October 30, 2023 at 5:00 PM
Ira H. Rubenzahl Learning Commons, Building 19/Forum**

Minutes of Meeting

Present: Jynai McDonald, Chair Pro Tempore
Elizabeth Oleksak-Sposito, Secretary
Zoya Plunkett-Brown, Student Trustee
Laurie Martin, Alumni Trustee
Jeff Sattler, Trustee
MacArthur Starks, Trustee
Samalid Hogan, Trustee (joined at 5:10, after roll-call)

Unable to Attend: Tonia Butler-Pérez, Trustee
Bill Johnson, Trustee
Norman Roldan, Trustee

Also Present: Dr. John B. Cook, President
Nanette Flores, Executive Assistant to the President & Board Clerk

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

Acting Chair Jynai McDonald called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

The following Trustees were present at roll call: Acting Chair Jynai McDonald, Trustee Secretary Elizabeth Oleksak-Sposito, Student Trustee Zoya Plunkett-Brown, Alumni Trustee Laurie Martin, Trustee Jeff Sattler, and Trustee MacArthur Starks. Six Trustees present, constituting a quorum. Trustee Samalid Hogan joined at 5:10 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

b) Board of Trustee Meeting – Monday, September 25, 2023

Trustee Jeff Sattler moved to approve the minutes from the September 25th Board of Trustees meeting, seconded by Trustee MacArthur Starks. After no further discussion, unanimously approved.

III. President's Perspective – Dr. John B. Cook, President

b) Fall Semester Outlook (Final Enrollment at November meeting)
Fall 1 and Fall2 numbers will be compiled and ready for the November 27th full Board meeting, along with updated data for MassReconnect.

c) Fall II: Extended Tuesday Evening Operations

As a test, student services, including the library are extending hours of operation on Tuesdays to support students enrolled in evening courses. Tuesday is the day when more evening courses are offered.

d) October Legislative Delegation Breakfast

Shared in the packet is program from the October 13th Regional Legislative Delegation Forum/Breakfast. Question asked as to how members can continue to be helpful to STCC.

e) New UMass Amherst Chancellor

Dr. Cook recently met with the new UMass Amherst Chancellor, Dr. Javier Reyes. Included as part of the conversation was the value of having UMass in Springfield.

f) Mason Square/Mass Development TDI (Transformative Development Initiative)

The Mason Square/Mass Development Transformative Development Initiative (TDI) was discussed, including the participation by STCC (efforts of contributing to our area ecosystem, and ongoing collaboration with community partners).

g) Clean Crop (Holyoke Start-up) engagement with STCC

A start-up based in Holyoke has sought to partner with the college on workforce development that would draw from a combination of fields/disciplines including photonics/optics, applied electrical engineering, and applied mechanical engineering. Dr. Cook also noted that Holyoke has some of the lowest energy rates in Massachusetts, which was a key reason for this company selecting the city.

h) November All-College Town Hall with Cabinet

Dr. Cook spoke about the upcoming All-College Town Hall meeting and shared that Cabinet members and himself will lead the Q&A. Also shared was that President Cook and CFO/Vice President of Administration Andrea Nathanson are members of the management team engaged in the next round of MCCC contract negotiations/bargaining, which is a state-wide process.

IV. Chair's Report – Trustee Jynai McDonald, Chair Pro Tempore

a) Acting Chair Jynai McDonald spoke about her experience at the 2023 Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Leadership Congress/Conference.

b) The ACCT 2024 National Legislative Summit is being held in Washington D.C. in February 4-7, 2024 and noted that the Massachusetts Community College (MACC) is

highly represented at this summit. President Cook and Trustees attending have the opportunity to meet and have conversations with State legislators.

- c) The DHE Statewide Trustee convening, originally scheduled on November 16, in Westborough MA has been cancelled.

V. Old Business / New Business

Regarding Trustee appointments, Dr. Cook noted that the new Administration is working on re-establishing the Public Education Nominating Council (PENC).

Trustee Sattler suggested resuming “tours” into Trustee meetings.

VI. Date of Next Meeting: Monday, November 27, 2023

VII. Adjournment

At 5:34 p.m., Acting Chair Jynai McDonald moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustees MacArthur Starks and Laurie Martin, and unanimously approved.


Jynai McDonald
Chair Pro Tempore, STCC Board of Trustees


Elizabeth Oleksak-Sposito
Secretary, STCC Board of Trustees