

**NIAGARA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**JUNE 15, 2021**

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**A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held  
on June 15, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.  
via ZOOM, in person, and live streaming**

**Board Members Present**

Ms. Gina Virtuoso, Chairperson  
Mr. William Ross, Vice Chairperson  
Mr. Jason Cafarella, Financial Secretary  
Ms. Bonnie Sloma, Secretary (via Zoom)  
Ms. Katherine Alexander  
Ms. Sheila Smith (via Zoom)  
Mr. Jerald Wolfgang  
Mr. Maurice Jackson, Student Trustee

**Board Member Excused**

Mr. Kevin Clark

**Administration Present**

William J. Murabito, Ph.D., President  
Ms. Deborah Brewer, Director, Foundation  
Ms. Catherine Brown, Assistant Vice President of Human Resources  
Ms. Barbara DeSimone, Director of Public Relations  
Mr. Jesse Goldberg, Chief Information Officer  
Mr. Wayne Lynch, Vice President of Administration  
Mr. Robert McKeown, Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Management  
Ms. Lydia Ulatowski, Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Ms. Barbara Walck, Assistant to the President

Chairperson Virtuoso called the meeting to order at 4:30p.m. and asked Trustee Wolfgang to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, and a moment of silence for the men and women serving in the military.

Chairperson Virtuoso stated that the meeting is being recorded.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no Public Comments.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Athletic Director Amanda Haseley thanked the board members for making it possible for NCCC athletes to compete in all sports this past year, and introduced several members of the wrestling team. Student Trustee Maurice Jackson shared a few words about his experience and the nine (9) qualified wrestlers who attended the National Tournament in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Baseball coach Matt Clingersmith thanked the board for all the support, as the team traveled to Greeneville, TN for the NJCAA World Series. The players were introduced and thanked the board. The team finished second in the nation. Ms. Haseley stated the golf team returned from their National Tournament in Chautauqua, NY, where the team placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the nation.

Chairperson Virtuoso stated the board is very happy for our athletes and makes them feel proud to be part of NCCC. Congratulations to all our athletic teams!

John D Strong, Chief Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Officer provided information on Juneteenth and Indigenous People's Day.

Heather Trumble, Technical Assistant, Office of Student Life introduced members of the Student Government Association Arianna Morales and Miranda Fiore; also stated that Student Trustee Maurice Jackson traveled with them. They discussed their experiences from the alternative spring break in New Orleans and how they engaged with the community effected by Hurricane Katrina. A PowerPoint presentation was provided on the work they accomplished.

President Murabito discussed the Niagara County Law Enforcement Academy, the purpose and how this would benefit NCCC. Niagara County Sheriff Filicetti and Niagara Falls Superintendent Faso were present and provided more details on the relocation of the academy. Chairperson Virtuoso asked Vice Chairperson Ross to read the resolution supporting the academy:

Board Resolution

Niagara County Law Enforcement Academy

The Niagara County Law Enforcement Academy is a long-standing law enforcement training program under the supervision of the Niagara County Sheriff and Niagara Falls Police Superintendent. The Academy at one time was hosted by Niagara County Community College (NCCC), serving for the most part, Niagara County law enforcement agencies; the Academy incorporated pre-employment training toward the end of its presence at NCCC. The Academy chose to move to Niagara University rather than continue its previous arrangement at NCCC. The Academy has been hosted by Niagara University for over a decade and has provided an excellent service to the community. The current Niagara County Law Enforcement Academy leadership approached NCCC to discuss the possibility of relocating the Academy back to NCCC. The Academy has been interested in identifying space that is more under its control and supervision. The discussions are currently underway, but have not been finalized. Any programmatic relocation would need to be approved through an administrative review process; any permanent building project would need to be approved by the NCCC Board of Trustees.

WHEREAS, the Niagara County Law Enforcement Academy leadership has expressed interest in relocating back to NCCC, and

WHEREAS, the public announcement by the Niagara County Legislature indicates its interest to support the move, and

WHEREAS, the campus has an interest in supporting community projects and currently has sufficient space to accommodate a timely relocation, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the NCCC Board of Trustees welcomes the opportunity to accommodate the relocation of the Academy back to the NCCC campus, and be it further

RESOLVED that the Academy leadership and campus administrators need to complete the administrative review and approval process, and be it further

RESOLVED that the College should engage in discussions regarding a permanent building development site and bring forth the project plans to the NCCC Board of Trustees for its approval.

It was moved by Trustee Cafarella and seconded by Trustee Wolfgang that the Board approve the Resolution – Niagara County Law Enforcement Academy as presented. Motion carried; Trustee Alexander

abstained.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairperson Virtuoso asked if Board members wanted any item removed from the Consent Agenda. It was moved by Chairperson Virtuoso and seconded by Vice Chairperson Ross that the Board approve the minutes from the May 18, 2021 board meeting, Statement of Revenues and Expenditures, and Grant Activities. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Student Trustee Jackson that the Board approve the Bonadio & Co., LLP, Final Signed Audit as of August 31, 2020 and 2019 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

Chairperson Virtuoso asked Board members if there were questions regarding the Information Items. The following items were received and filed: Grant Tracking Chart, Personnel Status Chart, Foundation Report, Facilities Update, and Enrollment Update.

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chairperson Virtuoso discussed the Slate of Officers. At the May board meeting, Trustee Clark provided a slate as follows:

Jason Cafarella – Chairperson, Gina Virtuoso – Vice Chairperson, Kevin Clark – Financial Secretary, Bonnie Sloma – Secretary. It was moved by Student Trustee Maurice Jackson and seconded by Trustee Alexander that the Board approve the 2021-2022 Board of Trustee Officers as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Virtuoso congratulated the newly appointed Chairperson, Jason Cafarella. Trustee Cafarella thanked Chairperson Virtuoso for all her work and dedication she has provided to the board. Chairperson Virtuoso thanked the board for all their work and assistance during her time as Chairperson.

### **ACADEMIC/STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Trustee Smith and seconded by Trustee Alexander to approve the Anti-Bullying Policy as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### **FISCAL COMMITTEE**

Vice President Wayne Lynch discussed the updated FY 21/22 Budget submission. It was moved by Trustee Cafarella and seconded by Trustee Alexander to approve the Updated FY 21/22 Budget Submission as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President Wayne Lynch also discussed the FY 21/22 Tuition and Fee Schedule with a proposed 4% tuition increase. Student fees will remain flat. It was moved by Trustee Cafarella and seconded by Trustee Wolfgang to approve the FY 21/22 Tuition and Fee Schedule as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Trustee Wolfgang asked about the 2% increase from the county. Chairperson Virtuoso explained the increase was put into the budget, and the county will review at their next meeting.

Barbara DeSimone, Director of Public Relations introduced Mike Weber, as he is coordinating the Niagara County By The Numbers Mural Project. He discussed the project and provided a handout of the mural which will be placed on the north side of NCCC grounds. Trustee Wolfgang asked where the remainder of the murals would be located.

It was moved by Trustee Wolfgang and seconded by Trustee Ross that the board approve the Niagara County By The Numbers: An Interactive Mural Trail as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### **PRESENTATION (continued)**

Robert McKeown, Assistant Vice President, Enrollment Management provided a PowerPoint presentation on the previous enrollment retreat outcomes, enrollment action items with updates, one stop initiative, offering more modalities, the student survey results, current marketing campaigns, and other upcoming campaigns.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Murabito discussed the following:

- Several weeks ago, President Murabito met with community college presidents face to face at Onondaga Community College. Discussed a new learning platform to replace Blackboard technology.
- Continue to meet with Lawley Insurance to discuss insurance benefits, etc.
- At the end of May, President Murabito attended the viewing of the Athletic Awards, given to students and faculty for their achievements throughout the year.
- Discussions with Holly Curcione from the Niagara Military Affairs Council for possible civilian job employment (internships) for our students from NFCL.
- This year, the NYCCAP and NYCCT conferences will be held together on November 5 and 6 in Saratoga, NY. Please let Barb Walck know if you are interested in attending.
- President Murabito, Chairperson Virtuoso and Wayne Lynch were part of a call with Niagara County members regarding our budget, etc. Another meeting will be held on July 26 for the Joint Administration and Community Services meeting to adopt the budget. The Legislative meeting for the public hearing will be on Tuesday, August 3.
- Barbara DeSimone, Director of Public Relations, discussed the Ride for Roswell event being held on August 7 and will be using Lot 4 on our campus. We anticipate over 500 cyclists. We are excited to be part of this event.
- Lydia Ulatowski, Vice President of Academic Affairs, discussed the academic restructuring of the divisions. A handout was provided of the proposed division restructure.
- President Murabito stated we are a sponsor with the Town of Niagara Music Mania Mondays. Please contact Barb Walck if you are interested in attending any of the Monday concerts
- Wayne Lynch, Vice President of Administration provided a COVID update. Starting this Monday, no more screening on campus will take place; if unvaccinated, must screen at home before arrival. If vaccinated, masks are no longer needed with provided proof of vaccination. All entrance ways will be open.

### **STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT**

The Student Trustee Report was provided by Maurice Jackson.

### **FACULTY OBSERVER REPORT**

No report was provided.

It was moved by Trustee Wolfgang and seconded by Vice Chairperson Ross that the Board go into Executive Session under the provisions of Section 105 of Article 7 of the Public Officers Law to discuss

contract negotiations at 6:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Student Trustee Jackson that the Board come out of Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chairperson Virtuoso reminded board members there is not a board meeting in July. Also, the new chairperson, Jason Cafarella will be contacting board members for a new committee structure.

**GOOD & WELFARE**

Student Trustee Jackson wished everyone a safe and nice summer.

It was moved by Trustee Alexander and seconded by Student Trustee Jackson to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Bonnie Sloma  
Secretary