



Greenville Technical College Board

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Barton Campus, Student Success Center 102, Community Room

Members Present

Paul Batson
Tom Britt
Jo Hackl
Hunter Howard
Dean Jones
Ray Lattimore, Chair
Ray Martin
Dr. Burke Royster
Coleman Shouse
Keith Smith
Kenneth Southerlin
David Stafford

Members Absent

Staff Present

Eric Bedingfield
Kelvin Byrd
Jacqui DiMaggio
Julie Eddy
Artie Hammond
Susan Jones
Dr. Matteel Knowles
Lisa Mangione
Becky Mann
Dr. Keith Miller, President
Dr. Larry Miller
Lauren Simer
Wendy Walden
Ann Wright

Guests

David Sudduth, GT Foundation Board Chair

Chair Lattimore called the meeting to order at 12:13 p.m. and welcomed board members, staff, and guests. Chair Lattimore announced that the press had been notified of the meeting under the Freedom of Information Act. Chair Lattimore acknowledged that the agenda was posted on the GTC website, and a quorum of board members was present.

Mr. Lattimore stated that the next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 19, 2024.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Hackl had a question concerning the confidentiality of a statement under Old and New Business in the January 2024 board minutes. After discussion, Ms. Hackl made a motion to amend the minutes, omitting the statement. Mr. Southerlin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Batson made a motion to approve the April 2024 board minutes. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Finance Report

Mr. Southerlin asked Ms. DiMaggio to provide the financial report. The full report is attached.

Total revenues are approximately 2% above the budget and approximately 7% above the prior year actual. Expenses are approximately 1% above the budget and approximately 12% above the prior year actual.

Audit Committee

Mr. Howard stated that the Audit Committee met earlier and received reports from both the external and internal auditors. The external auditors, Mauldin & Jenkins, will begin preliminary audit work next month and anticipate completion of the report by mid-September. Mr. Artie Hammond, internal auditor, presented the internal audit responding to reports he had received, audit on financial aid, and bookstore observations, all with little to no deficiencies.

Building and Grounds Committee

Mr. Smith stated that the Building and Grounds Committee met earlier to discuss an access easement agreement for \$10,000 presented on behalf of BP Acquisitions, LLC, the buyer of Morgan Manor. Ms. DiMaggio gave a brief overview of the proposed access easement. The easement is necessary to gain access from Pleasantburg Drive to a parking garage below Morgan Manor. The agreement would also allow entrance to the parking lot in front of the college's IEL Building. Ms. Hackl suggested exploring the possibility of an agreement that provides recurring revenue. Once the committee reviews and reaches a consensus on the agreement, it would be presented to the potential buyer.

After discussion, Mr. Smith made a motion on behalf of the committee for the board's approval to have the college's attorney draft a similar but revocable easement agreement. If possible, include designated parking and/or prorated maintenance costs. The committee also requested the authority to move forward with the easement once an agreeable document is created. The motion carried.

Marketing, Recruiting, and Enrollment Committee

Mr. Martin stated that the Marketing, Recruiting, and Enrollment Committee met yesterday. Dr. Knowles was asked to give a brief update regarding the engagement of Ruffalo Noel-Levitz (RNL) Enrollment Consulting.

Dr. Knowles stated that the college's current focus is student enrollment, especially first-time students, transfers, and adult learners. RNL specializes in supplying enrollment management expertise with actionable data to thrive in today's competitive environment. RNL will work on three specific areas: 1) optimizing the student journey; 2) auditing the college's new student communications; and 3) assisting with the CRM purchased through Anthology.

Ms. Simer provided a brief update on the marketing aspect. The marketing focus will be on the new rebranding in all areas to allow flexibility for shifts in the environment, including the FAFSA debacle. Marketing is collaborating with internal business partners to create sample messages about the FAFSA issue to determine viability before a full launch.

Chair Lattimore congratulated Mr. Martin and the committee for the seamless rollout of the new college branding.

McAlister Study Committee

Mr. Shouse provided an update on the McAlister Square study. The committee has been collecting substantial data about the land situation, ownership, covenants, and all restrictions attached to the McAlister Square property. The committee will meet on May 21, 2024, for a working session to discuss the next crucial step. The college retained Mr. William McKinney, an attorney with Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, who will attend the meeting.

President's Report

President Miller provided the following highlights.

- Concerning the federal debacle in terms of financial aid, the Commission on Higher Education asked colleges and universities to provide a recap of what has been done to help students through this process. A copy of President Miller's letter was available at the board meeting laying out the touch points communicated with the student body and assistance offered to maneuver through the process.
- A list of 2024 statewide Republican Party and Democratic Party primary candidates was available at the board meeting.
- The enabling legislation for the Greenville Technical College Area Commission was modified. Dr. Royster's and Mr. Jones's positions were changed to "must live *or work* in Greenville County." Board members will continue to serve four-year terms expiring on May 31 of each year. The 12-year limit for board service was removed. If three consecutive meetings are missed, the board chair will now have the option of excusing some or all of them. There are three reappointments in July.
- The Prisma Health Center for Health & Life Sciences is on schedule and budget, and parking lot grading is underway.
- The Center for Workforce Development is officially the Center for Welding and Automation Excellence and will be located on the Brashier Campus. Senator Graham approved a \$3 million grant for welding equipment.
- The Administration Building 123 is almost complete with move-in expected in early June 2024.
- The Child Development Center renovation is complete with playground equipment installation expected the week of May 20, 2024.
- Building 103: the HVAC area is awaiting Phase 2 approval for the renovation of area 300.
- Building 103: the roof is in process with an expected completion of August 2024.
- Building 120: the roof is awaiting Phase 2 approval.
- Installation of access controls and cameras is underway with six buildings finished on the Barton Campus and an expected project completion by June 2025.
- G.W. Lyles Construction in Spartanburg was awarded the bridge project contract with an expected completion in late fall 2024.
- The college has a new partnership with Greenville County Schools, On Track Greenville (United Way), and Launch Greenville (Greenville Chamber) to invest \$250,000 of SC Wins Scholarship funds annually and transport students from Berea, Carolina, and Southside high schools to the Barton Campus.
- The college graduated 979 students and presented 1,092 awards (preliminary) at Spring Commencement. Chair Lattimore issued a challenge for more board members to be present at Commencement to celebrate this major accomplishment with students.
- Front Porch purchase of Student Housing: Over 20 residents participate in classes at the college; one resident is participating on the student advisory team for Collegiate Recovery; over

207 individuals or families have moved in over the past year and the property is at capacity; and dental students assisted in Front Porch's Community Health and Resource Fair in March. Front Porch Housing is grateful for the college's partnership and is looking for ways to expand and strengthen the partnership.

- The Greenville Tech Foundation has met 31% of the \$2,500,000 goal, 28% of the \$300,000 goal for unrestricted revenue, and 36 new donors giving \$90,594.

South Carolina Association for Technical College Commissioners (SCATCC) Update

Mr. Shouse provided the SCATCC update.

The SCATCC Board will host its annual retreat this year in Greenville, June 6-8, 2024, at Springhill Suites. The retreat consists of a tour of BMW and a hard hat tour of the Prisma Health Center for Health & Life Sciences. Chair Lattimore will be the guest speaker on Friday, June 7, 2024, at noon and will speak about how the college has evolved and what the future looks like.

Commission for Higher Education (CHE) Update

Mr. Batson provided a CHE update.

The CHE board met on May 2, 2024. The Finance Committee considered fourteen projects; one was the new Center for Welding and Automation Excellence, which passed unanimously. The search for a new executive director is underway; there are six to eight candidate interviews scheduled for May 16, 2024, via Zoom.

Old and New Business

There being no other business, Chair Lattimore adjourned the meeting at 1:18 p.m.