**SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**BROOKHAVEN GYMNASIUM, ALUMNI ROOM**

**AMMERMAN CAMPUS, SELDEN, NEW YORK**

**MARCH 17, 2011**

The meeting was held on Thursday, March 17, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. in the Brookhaven Gymnasium Alumni Room, Selden, New York.

PRESENT:

Ernesto Mattace, Jr. Trustee/Chair

Walter Hazlitt Trustee/Vice Chair

Belinda Alvarez-Groneman Trustee

Bryan Lilly Trustee

Patricia McMahon Trustee

Paul Pontieri Trustee

Theresa Sanders Trustee

Angelika Fiesler Student Trustee

Shaun L. McKay President

George Gatta Executive Vice President

Mary Lou Araneo V.P. Institutional Advancement

James Amoroso VP of Financial & Business Affairs

Nathaniel Pugh VP for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness

Marvin Bright Assoc. V.P. Student Affairs

Doriane Gloria Asst. V.P. Employee Resources

Louis Petrizzo Deputy General Counsel

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The meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened at 8:30 a.m.

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A motion to enter into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel matters was seconded and approved unanimously.

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A motion to reconvene the Board of Trustees meeting was seconded and approved unanimously at 9:30 a.m.

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A motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2011 Board of Trustees Meeting was seconded and approved unanimously.

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A motion to approve Resolution Nos. 2011.15 through 2011.16 was seconded and approved unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2011.15 APPROVING MONTHLY SPONSOR SERVICES FOR SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**WHEREAS**, the State University of New York Regulation No. 602.7 requires the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees to review and approve all Sponsor provided services and their estimated value in advance of the service being rendered, and

**WHEREAS**, the regulation also requires the approval of the payment of each Sponsor Service satisfactorily performed, and

**WHEREAS**, health insurance is considered a Sponsor Service, be it therefore

**RESOLVED**, that the health insurance payment to the County of Suffolk in the amount of $1,792,105.06 for the month of February 2011 (Attachment I) is hereby approved by the Board of Trustees.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2011.16 ADOPTING STATE BUDGET ADVOCACY POSITION FOR SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County Community College has seen record enrollments, with the student population increasing 10% since the 2008-2009 academic year and nearly 33% over the past decade; and

**WHEREAS**, SCCC recognizes the difficult fiscal environment currently facing New York State, but also understands the unique position of SUNY’s thirty community colleges to address the needs of high school graduates and adults looking to enhance their skills and employment opportunities, the needs of the region’s business community for qualified employees, and the need to create the workforce required to catalyze new industry and economic prosperity; and

**WHEREAS**, SCCC has sustained more than $10.5 million in state aid cuts over the last three years; and

**WHEREAS,** the Executive Budget for FY2011-12 proposes an additional 10% cut to FTE based aid to $2,034 – a loss of an additional $3.5 million, which would equal a three-year reduction of $14 million for SCCC; and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed 10% cut in state base aid together with increases in contractual salary, pension and healthcare costs would lead to a cumulative shortfall of $9.0 million for the FY2011-12 budget; and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed cut of FTE aid to $2,034, if adopted, will dramatically undermine the efforts of all thirty community colleges in the SUNY system to adequately meet the growing needs of their communities for a quality, affordable, and accessible higher education, and which could result in limitations on student enrollment, elimination of programs, as well as staff layoffs; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Suffolk County Community College hereby memorializes its opposition to additional cuts to state base aid for community colleges and supports the position adopted by the New York Community College Association of Presidents against such cuts; and

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Trustees strongly urges the Governor and the New York State Legislature to maintain base aid funding at $2,260 per FTE; and

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Trustees requests that its Chairman communicate its position to New York State public officials for consideration during budget deliberations.

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Chairman Mattace noted that he met with Congressman Israel to discuss the Green Technology Workforce Initiative. He stated that the College will be receiving and accepting $200,000 from the grant.

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James Amoroso, Vice President of Financial and Business Affairs, presented the Finance Report as of February 28, 2011. He stated that the College is estimating revenues above the adopted budget by $334 thousand. Expenditures are estimated to be below budget by $1.65 million. Mr. Amoroso stated that the College’s financial performance has enabled the institution to pay down most of the $1.7 million deficit we began the year with. The deficit currently stands at $327 thousand. He noted that the College is in the process of reviewing the proposed operating budget for 2011-2012, and he would report to the Board next month the recommendations.

Trustee Hazlitt noted that basic tuition for full-time Spring showed a deficit of $1.3 million. He also inquired about the $200 thousand deficit for the Good Samaritan contract. President McKay noted that those transfers may be as a result of how Banner was set up where certain accounting codes were established. He noted that it is a reflection of movements between the new and old categories and not an actual deficit. VP Amoroso stated he would look into those two lines.

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Chairman Mattace moved forward with the Committee reports. He noted Trustee Lilly and Trustee Alvarez-Groneman received the list of individuals who should receive the President’s evaluation. The turn around time for the individuals is one to two weeks and Trustee Lilly and Trustee Alvarez-Groneman will be provided a spreadsheet to collect everyone’s responses.

Chairman Mattace stated that he had recently travelled to Albany on March 8th, with Mary Adams President of NYCCT. They visited with legislators trying to send the message that health and education cannot be sacrificed. He noted that the fact sheet that he used on his trip was sent to the Board as well, and encouraged Board members to send the same message when speaking and meeting with community leaders, civic groups and legislators. Chairman Mattace stated his concern that students are now paying forty-nine percent of the cost for the College’s operation, when they should be paying thirty three and a third percent of the cost. He fears that in a few years the students will be asked to pay sixty percent of the cost.

Chairman Mattace stated that ACCT sent him information for nominations for their awards. The deadline for submitting nominations is the end of April. He also received information for their annual conference in October in Dallas, Texas, anyone interested in attending the conference should speak with him.

Chairman Mattace stated that he had received a call from Congressman Steve Israel’s office. The Congressman would like to be more involved with Suffolk County Community College in helping any industry and manufacturing partnerships. The Chairman invited any other Trustees who are interested in attending to let him know, as the meeting will be set up for sometime in April. Trustee McMahon noted she would like to be present at the meeting.

President McKay noted that John Lombardo currently serves on the Congressman’s task force for manufacturing and that the College will be hosting the First Annual LI Manufacturing Symposium on October 21, 2011. The details will be reported to the Board as they become available.

Chairman Mattace noted that also included in this month’s packet was the invitation for the Foundations Gala, and encouraged all to attend. Trustee McMahon inquired about the seating for the Foundation dinner. The Chairman noted that in the past there has been a Trustees table but that Board members circulate throughout the room.

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President McKay began his report by stating that yesterday all sixty-four Presidents had a conference call with the Chancellor to discuss the budget being proposed for SUNY at the NY State Senate and Assembly level. He noted that last month he had reported that the Governor included in his proposed budget the deferment of projects that we had received County support for. However in the conference call, neither the Assembly or Senate is recommending funding for those projects. He stated that it will require a lot of work to have these projects restored. He noted that many have met or are scheduled to meet with our elected officials to discuss the impact of the proposed reductions. President McKay thanked the Trustees, the faculty, students, and the Faculty Association and all who are currently contacting elected officials.

President McKay stated that the proposed reduction to State Aid for the community college sector, was around sixty-five million dollars, which is about three point five million dollars for Suffolk County Community College.

President McKay stated that all cost center meetings were held and the proposed operating budget will be presented for review by the full Board shortly. He noted that Vice President Amoroso and his staff conducted a gap analysis to determine the total fiscal impact of the current proposed reductions; a number of budget scenarios will be developed for the Board’s consideration.

Trustee Pontieri inquired what the pension contribution would be this year. President McKay stated that in the TF-5 category, the mandatory increase above what we are supposed to put into the budget, was about three million. President McKay also noted that we will see increases to health care costs and that our retirees receive medical coverage for life.

Trustee Hazlitt asked besides Vice President Connors, how many Tier 1 people are still employed. President McKay noted that each tier has a different variation. He stated that Tier 5 is where the mandates were, and they are now proposing a Tier 6. President McKay stated they would get back to Trustee Hazlitt with the exact number for Tier 1.

President McKay stated that he is actively engaged in the silent phase of a major gifts campaign for the Foundation. He noted that he and the Chairman of the Foundation, Bob Walther, have been meeting over the last month with about forty individuals throughout the county. He stated that the discovery meetings have proven to be extremely successful. President McKay stated that one individual gave a six figure donation on the spot right away. He further noted that after meeting with the same individual again on a subsequent matter that this individual later increased the initial donation amount. President McKay stated that the kickoff meeting for the seven million dollar campaign will be later this Spring. He noted all was going extremely well in regard to the cultivation process. He expected that he and Chairman Walther would make a formal presentation to the full Board at a future meeting. He stated that as an institution, both the Foundation and Board of Trustees, work together to represent one college and have to work together. President McKay thanked all Trustees for their support including Trustees Hazlitt and Alvarez-Groneman who also serve on the Foundation Board.

President McKay reported that the Stay on Long Island Scholarship initiative is in the final evaluative phase and review teams have completed their work. He stated that a transmittal letter will be sent shortly to Presidents of partner institutions with application being recommended for either a full or partial scholarship. He noted that he will be sending the entire listing, indicating that all candidates are worthy of merit scholarship consideration.

President McKay stated that Professional Development Day for the faculty will be on March 22nd at the Michael J. Grant Campus. President McKay noted that the entire day will be focused on the Title III Grant and is being led by faculty. He stated that the faculty, AVP Connors and Dr. Welch have been working very hard with their teams. He further noted that there will be guest speakers from across the country, workshops for the faculty, panels, and breakout sessions.

President McKay thanked Trustees Pontieri and Sanders for participating in the Center on the Holocaust, Diversity and Human Understanding program on Hate Crimes held on March 15th. The center’s Exec. Dir., Prof. Steven Schrier, and the entire CHDHU Board developed an outstanding program. He noted the event was well attended and thanked Professor Schrier and the CHDHU Board.

President McKay stated that on March 11th SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, Deputy Vice Chancellor Duncan Poitier, Assistant Vice Chancellor Jen Loturco, elected officials and members of the college community attended both the Economic Forum and the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Montaukett Learning Resource Center. He noted that this was a significant day for the campus and the College and thanked Dr. Walters and the entire Eastern Campus, including Professor Peterman who organized and directed the group involved with the video taping of the events, photography and sound systems. President McKay stated it was a well organized event and asked Kevin Peterman to show the clip that was prepared by College staff showcasing the days events. President McKay further noted that the video clip was four minutes in length and that it takes about 10 hours of editing time to produce one minute of finished film. President McKay also thanked Joan Wozniack, Gayle Sheridan, Peter DeGrigorio, Steven Clark, and so many others that captured the event either on tape or film.

Chairman Mattace noted that the resolution passed earlier, regarding payment for healthcare costs through sponsor services with the County, was one million seven hundred thousand dollars in the month of February. He asked for a projection of what the cost increase was going to be over the next twelve months.

Trustee Pontieri asked if the College gave a reimbursement to those who decline to enroll for healthcare coverage through the College. Assistant Vice President for Employee Services Doriane Gloria stated that most of the College employees take the Colleges coverage as the primary coverage. She noted that most colleges do not offer an incentive for not taking the medical insurance, but they would look into any cost savings that could result from offering such an incentive.

Chairman Mattace noted that the Board packet included a copy of the audit that was done for the Association and he asked the Board to review the audit.

President McKay introduced Dr. Nathaniel Pugh who would introduce an addition to his department.

Dr. Nathaniel Pugh stated that he was honored to share that the College recently hired Chris Schults from the University of Michigan. Dr. Schults holds a Ph.D in higher education and will come to us from Mississippi Valley University. Dr. Pugh expected that Dr. Schults would join the College on March 20th.

President McKay noted that the College received a positive letter from Middle States and thanked all the members of the Board and all the members of his team who worked hard to ensure that our accrediting body received the information requested.

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Chairman Mattace moved forward with the Roundtable session.

Student Trustee Fieseler noted that she was aware of two candidates from the Grant Campus who would be running for the next student trustee position. Chairman Mattace inquired when the election was going to be held. AVP Bright stated that the deadline to hand in the applications for student trustee was this upcoming Friday, with the elections held on April 6th. Student Trustee Fieseler stated that she planned to meet with all the candidates and would try to mentor them.

Chairman Mattace noted that he encourage the Trustees to contact him if anyone was interested in going to Dallas for the conference in October. He stated that despite the cut backs he would be happy to increase the travel budget next year to offer more Trustees the opportunity to travel to conferences and work with other Trustees.

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Chairman Mattace noted that after executive session there would be no further action and the meeting would be adjourned.

A motion to enter into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel matters was seconded and approved unanimously.

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at 10:31 a.m. The next Board of Trustees meeting is April 14, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Eastern Campus

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Respectfully submitted,

Ernesto Mattace, Jr.

Chairman