

SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MICHAEL J. GRANT CAMPUS
BOARD ROOM, LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER (LRC)
AND VIA ZOOM
DECEMBER 16, 2021

The meeting was held on Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the LRC on the Michael J. Grant Campus and via Zoom.

PRESENT:

E. Christopher Murray	Chair
James Morgo	Vice Chair
Shirley Coverdale	Second Vice Chair
Gordon Canary	Secretary
Theresa Sanders	Trustee
Kevin O'Connor	Trustee
Belinda Pagdanganan	Trustee
Priscilla Zarate	Trustee
Zachary Frost	Student Trustee
Dr. Edward Bonahue	President
Louis J. Petrizzo	Executive Vice President and General Counsel
Alicia O'Connor	Deputy General Counsel
Dr. Mark Harris	V.P. for Business and Financial Affairs
Mary Lou Araneo	V.P. for Institutional Advancement
Shady Azzam-Gomez	V.P. for Information Technology Services
Dr. Patty Munsch	Interim Assistant V.P. for Student Affairs
Dr. Lauren Tacke-Cushing	Associate V.P. for Academic Affairs
Kaliah Greene	Interim V.P. / Executive Director, Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness
Angelica Rivera	A.V.P. for Employee Resources

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened at 4:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Canary.

Chair Murray called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting and convene the Board of Directors meeting at 4:03 p.m. Trustee Canary so moved, Trustee Coverdale seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Murray called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting and reconvene the Board of Trustees meeting at 4:08 p.m. Trustee O'Connor so moved, Student Trustee Frost seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Murray requested a motion to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Morgo so moved, Trustee Canary seconded. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

Chair Murray introduced Mark Harris, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs, to present the College Budget and Financial report. Dr. Harris reported that the information conveyed to the Board of Trustees last month remain unchanged. The College is still projecting it will end FY'21 with a healthy fund balance. The auditors have been on campus working with the finance department in testing the College's processes for revenue and cost recognitions, confirming changes to fixed assets, and equally important, testing the modeling of the projected results to ensure that the financials are in compliance with GASB. A key focus of the audit is the treatment of the CARES and, HEERF funding, especially because Suffolk County Community College received substantial federal support relative to other colleges in the SUNY system. The College's goal is to have the audit completed by the first week of January and presented to the full board in February.

In terms of the current FY' 22 budget update, the income and expenditure statements presented activities through the month of November, and include some revenue and cost assumptions. The adopted budget included use of approximately \$4.954m from fund balance, factoring in approximately \$9.82m of reimbursement for lost revenue from HEERF. This still means that the College has the potential of using fund balance for FY'22 based on revenue for spring 2022. As a consequence, the College is still focused on continued cost mitigation efforts and operational efficiencies to mitigate the amount of fund balance used in FY'22. As the College progresses through the fiscal year, it will be in a much better position to give more meaningful estimates on the ending fund balance for FY'22.

In preparation for the FY'23 budget, the College has developed a budgetary framework that will focus on strategies that will be geared toward retention, student success, and operational efficiencies, while being fiscally responsible. Budget templates will be provided to cabinet officers by December 15, to be completed and returned to finance by January 31, 2022, with budget reviews taking place thereafter, including meetings with the Budget & Finance Committee. At this point, the College does not know the percentage increase that will be set by the County, or the funding model by SUNY.

VP Harris reviewed the resolutions with financial impact. Resolution number 1 is the standard monthly service payment to Suffolk County for employee health insurance.

The payment this month is lower than normal primarily because it's the quarter for the health insurance and there is a \$461,763.30 Medicare credit. On an average, the monthly bill is about \$2.8 million depending on the number of payrolls that the County includes in the bill. This month, the cost is \$2,294,612.38 and is being submitted for review and approval. Resolution number 2 is the budget transfer in the amount of \$16,000, reallocating funds from one department to the next department to cover where transferred employees work.

Chair Murray called for a motion for the approval of College Resolutions 2021.65 through 2021.69 and 2021.71 through 2021.75 (2021.70 was withdrawn). Trustee O'Connor so moved, Trustee Morgo seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.65 - 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 \$2,294,612.38 for the month of November 2021 (*Attachment I*) is hereby approved by the Board of Trustees.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.66 - Approving Budget Transfers

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has established a policy on the authorization of budget transfers, and

WHEREAS, according to said policy, budget transfers must be authorized by a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees, and

WHEREAS, the Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs recommends the budget transfers on *Attachment II* as necessary for the operation of the College, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the budget transfers shown on *Attachment II* are hereby authorized and approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.67 - Authorizing increase in the Hourly Wage Rate for Part-Time employees at Suffolk County Community College

WHEREAS, due to the increase in New York State's minimum wage effective 12/31/2021, the hourly wage rate for part-time employees of Suffolk County Community College should, likewise, be increased, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the hourly wage rate for part-time employees of the College shall be increased as reflected on the Attachment III, annexed hereto, effective 12/20/2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.68 - Accepting Grant Funds from the Suffolk Community College Foundation in Support of Suffolk County Community College's Entrepreneurial Assistance Program

WHEREAS, the Suffolk Community College Foundation (Foundation) has received a grant award in the amount of \$500,000 from the Citi Foundation to provide minority businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with technical assistance and offer 60-hour entrepreneurial training programs, and

WHEREAS, the Foundation has authorized a portion of this grant award in an amount up to \$100,000 to be transferred to Suffolk County Community College to fund staff positions in the Entrepreneurial Assistance Center, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the acceptance of an amount up to \$100,000 from the Suffolk Community College Foundation, which constitutes a portion of the grant award received by the Foundation from the Citi Foundation, to fund staff positions in the Entrepreneurial Assistance Center at Suffolk County Community College.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.69 – Accepting Grant Funds from the Suffolk Community College Foundation in Support of Suffolk County Community College's Johnson Controls College Partnership Program

WHEREAS, the Suffolk Community College Foundation (Foundation) has received a grant award in the amount of \$90,000 from Johnson Controls to advance excellence in workforce preparation by engaging HVAC, electrical technology, and fire safety professionals from JCI in the support of training opportunities for members of underserved communities in Suffolk's HVAC program, and

WHEREAS, the Foundation has authorized a portion of this grant award in an amount up to \$29,311.00 to be transferred to Suffolk County Community College to support 25% of the cost of a full-time Professional Assistant in HVAC, including fringe benefits, and up to 680 hours for student aides to work in HVAC instructional laboratories, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the acceptance of an amount up to \$29,311.00 from the Suffolk Community College Foundation, which constitutes a portion of the grant award received by the Foundation from Johnson Controls, to fund, in part, a staff position and student aides in the HVAC program at Suffolk County Community College.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.70 - WITHDRAWN

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.71 - Amending the College Budget for an Increase to the Grant Award from the State University of New York for a SUNY Child Care Program

WHEREAS, the 2021-2022 College operating budget provides \$201,000 from the State University of New York for a SUNY Child Care Program, and

WHEREAS, the grant award has been increased by \$5,101, bringing the total amount of the grant award to \$206,101, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the 2021-2022 College operating budget in the amount of \$5,101 to provide for the increase in the grant award, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the 2021-2022 College operating budget be amended to reflect an increase in the amount of \$5,101, from the State University of New York for a SUNY Child Care Program, and the College President, or his designee, is authorized to execute a contract with the administering agency, upon such terms and conditions as shall be approved by the College General Counsel.

Project Director: Barbara E. Hurst, Director of Business Affairs

Note: No full-time positions
No in-kind contribution required

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.72 - Reappointing a Director to the Board of The Center for Social Justice & Human Understanding, Inc.

WHEREAS, the by-laws of The Center for Social Justice & Human Understanding, Inc. provide for the College Board of Trustees to appoint the members of its Board of Directors, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to reappoint a member whose term is expiring, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the reappointment of the following person to the Board of Directors of The Center for Social Justice & Human Understanding, Inc. is hereby approved, for a term ending September 1, 2024:

Name
Arlene Jennings

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.73 - Reappointing a Director to the Board of The Center for Social Justice & Human Understanding, Inc.

WHEREAS, the by-laws of The Center for Social Justice & Human Understanding, Inc. provide for the College Board of Trustees to appoint the members of its Board of Directors, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to reappoint a member whose term is expiring, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the reappointment of the following person to the Board of Directors of The Center for Social Justice & Human Understanding, Inc. is hereby approved, for a term ending September 1, 2024:

Name
Lynda Perdomo-Ayala

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.74 - Reappointing a Director to the Board of The Center for Social Justice & Human Understanding, Inc.

WHEREAS, the by-laws of The Center for Social Justice & Human Understanding, Inc. provide for the College Board of Trustees to appoint the members of its Board of Directors, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to reappoint a member whose term is expiring, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the reappointment of the following person to the Board of Directors of The Center for Social Justice & Human Understanding, Inc. is hereby approved, for a term ending September 1, 2024:

Name
Robbye Kinkade

RESOLUTION NO. 2021.75 - Granting Approval for the President to Serve on the HIA-LI Board of Directors

WHEREAS, the Employment Agreement of the College President Ed Bonahue requires the President to obtain the prior approval of the Board of Trustees before serving on any corporate Board of Directors, and

WHEREAS, the College President wishes to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the HIA-LI organization, and

WHEREAS, the President has requested the prior approval of the Board of Trustees to serve on the Board of Directors of the HIA-LI, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby grants approval to the President Ed Bonahue to serve on the Board of Directors of the HIA-LI for an initial term, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees reserves the right to revoke this approval at any time by Resolution of this Board.

Chairman Murray moved to the committee reports and called for the Student Success Committee report. Trustee Pagdanganan reported the committee met on December 7th. The committee received an update on the status of activities taking place this month that are related to the College's efforts to address basic student needs. Among the highlights were that President Bonahue shared the presentation he delivered at last month's Board of Trustees meeting at this month's shared governance meeting at the Michael J. Grant and Ammerman Campuses. The second is a Suffolk County Department of Social Services representative will be available to consult with the students on campus one day per week on a rotating basis. The third is the Basic Needs Task Force will continue to work on this effort and will assist with issuing an update to the College community in the spring.

Chair Murray called for the Governance Committee report. Trustee Canary said the committee met on Monday, December 13th. Deputy General Counsel O'Connor and Assistant Director of Special Events Steed Alberti brought to the committee's attention the request of Dreamland Amusements to utilize the undeveloped land at the Michael J. Grant Campus for the Long Island Fun Fest Carnival which will take place June 16th through the 26th of 2022. Discussion was had that the proposed dates and times will not conflict with any other events such as the Future Stars summer sports camp. The

committee also discussed the insurance and safety requirements that the applicant must comply with, including the obtaining of a permit from the Town of Islip for the display of fireworks. After discussion, the committee agreed that the College should proceed with a one-year license agreement with Dreamland Amusements to utilize College property for the 2022 Long Island Fun Fest. There was no further business, and that concluded their meeting.

Chair Murray called for the Advocacy Committee report. Trustee Zarate said the committee met on December 7th via Zoom teleconference. Present were Jim Morgo, Vice Chair, Belinda Pagdanganan, Trustee, Drew Biondo, College Director of Communications, Christina Vargas, Chief Diversity Officer and Title IX Coordinator, and Carmen Torres, Recording Secretary. The Advocacy Committee introduced Christina Vargas, College Chief Diversity Officer, who updated the committee on the College's diversity, equity, and inclusion plan and what has been done throughout the College. Ms. Vargas discussed her role as Chief Diversity Officer working on issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion in collaboration with Student Affairs, Multicultural Affairs, Academic Affairs, and the Center for Social Justice. The scope of the work has been in three main areas which includes climate, the culture of belonging, and capacity - building up of our faculty, staff, and students, with the emphasis and focus directed towards faculty and staff. The goals are to develop a welcoming environment for students, and facilitate curriculum changes to service the College's diverse student population.

Ms. Vargas discussed a series of Zoom dialogues and book club workshops held last year on these issues of equity and racism. These workshops took place as a way to forge a safe place for students and faculty to discuss these topics. The success of these dialogues and workshops gave an opportunity for pilot programs to be created at the College, all of which were well-attended, and became a cornerstone of how professional development was redesigned.

Also, with the full support from the Faculty Association, the J.E.D.I. Institute, Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, began and highlighted five areas of focus where faculty can engage in and really reexamine classroom discussions and how these issues can impact our students.

Ms. Vargas also presented the change of approach for recruiting and hiring practices and the understanding of how to increase diversity of applicant pools. Data tracking and search committee training has allowed the College to access that at all stages of the hiring process which are unbiased and inclusive. The committee discussed the overall importance of data analysis within all aspects throughout the College, from hiring practices to curriculum changes, so it would ensure that the College is servicing the diverse student population with an equitable plan.

Vice Chair Morgo commented about the way diversity and inclusion would benefit the Advocacy Committee wherein our government officials would be able to appreciate the work being done in those areas. The committee also discussed the various ways

diversity and inclusion can be utilized to advocate for the College and our students. Trustee Pagdanganan suggested potentially hosting a local event with County Legislators.

Drew Biondo, College Director of Communications, presented the new Suffolk legislators' structure of 11 Republicans and 7 Democrats. With this shift of parties, all committees will be reconstituted.

SUNY Chancellor Jim Malatras has been under fire with comments made during the investigation of Cuomo, with many calling for his resignation as Chancellor.

NYCCT held a budget advocacy forum which Trustee Zarate attended on December 9th, with various panelists discussing topics of budget, funding, and advocacy. The Advocacy Committee will reconvene in January with a date and time to be determined.

Chair Murray noted that since then the Chancellor had resigned and they are waiting for appointment of a new chancellor. He commented that the Advocacy Committee has its work cut out with so many changes happening.

Chair Murray called for the Foundation's report. Trustee Pagdanganan said through their winter holiday party, taking place next month, the membership from the Faculty Association and the Guild of Administrative Officers will be raising support for three scholarships: the Jane F. Shearer Memorial Scholarship, the Ellen Schuler Mauk Endowed Scholarship and the Kevin Peterman Labor Leadership Scholarship. These scholarships remind us of the many contributions to student success made by these labor leaders during their tenure. The Foundation extends sincere thanks to Professor Dante Morelli, President of the Faculty Association, and Professor Sean Tvelia, President of the Guild of Administrative Officers. The Foundation is also pleased to share that several faculty members and administrators have made gifts in support of various scholarships and hardship funds as part of their holiday giving. This is a true reflection of the generosity which exists in our learning community.

The Foundation team will be working with the Inauguration Committee to raise funds for support of the Presidential Inauguration which is scheduled for Friday, April 8th, at 10:00 a.m. The Inauguration will celebrate the installation of Dr. Bonahue as the seventh president of the College. As a public institution, it must raise funds to cover the expense for this event which provides an opportunity to celebrate the College's mission of open access and student success with the Long Island community. To learn more about supporting the inauguration as a donor or sponsor, kindly contact Dr. Sylvia Diaz, Executive Director of the Foundation.

At the beginning of the fall semester, the United Way of Long Island provided a total of \$10,000 in scholarship funds to support 10 of the College's promising nursing students through its Dreams For Youth Scholarship Program. The Foundation just learned that the United Way will provide each of the students with an additional \$500 in scholarship

support. The Foundation appreciates the opportunity to thank them publicly for their ongoing generosity.

Lastly, Jamie Weinberg, CEO of Homes By Jamie Jay, is a Suffolk alumni and professional real estate advisor. Together with colleagues, friends, and family, she has established a new scholarship to support single-parent students who often struggle with finding a work-life-study balance. The new Wings for Single Parent Scholarship will annually award \$2,500 to an eligible single-parent student. We appreciate our alumni and their willingness to support these students.

Trustee Morgo commented that the scholarship was terrific, particularly considering the decline in enrollment. He asked how would a single parent learn about the availability of that scholarship? VP Araneo said that primarily these scholarships are promoted online and the Foundation makes outreach to individuals. If they are self-designated single parents, they are able to contact them through various means of communication through Student Affairs. Trustee Morgo thanked VP Araneo and noted that there are many benefits that sometimes individuals are unaware of.

Chair Murray called for the Student Trustee update. Student Trustee Frost said his update would be brief since students were going through finals at the moment. He said he was going with his ambulance company to a career day at Bay Shore High School and he looked forward to talking about the College and letting them know about all of the resources and everything that is available to them. Also, he was happy to see on Facebook that Mercedes of Huntington came to visit the Automotive program at the College and trained them on their software and diagnostic tools which are unique to Mercedes. He said this opens up a lot of employment opportunities to the College's students, which is amazing.

Chair Murray moved onto the Chair's report. Chair Murray first congratulated Trustee Zarate on her reappointment and thanked her for her service. He said he and Trustee Morgo participated in an ACCT training which he thought was very worthwhile. He found interesting, when they broke them down into groups, how some of the other community colleges, such as Nassau Community College, face some of the same issues. He gained some perspective on what Nassau was doing and some of the challenges and pushback as to some of the reforms they are trying to institute.

Chair Murray announced that there would be no Board meeting in January; instead, the Board was going to have a retreat on Friday, January 14th, along with the Foundation Board. The retreat will start with a breakfast in which they have also invited elected officials to attend. He said they are still working on the agenda and if anyone wanted to suggest any topics of interest to email them to him.

Lastly, he said Dr. Bonahue would be discussing during his President's report the Wyandanch project with the Urban League. He disclosed that he does the legal work for the Urban League so he would recuse himself during that portion of the meeting.

Chair Murray moved to the President's report. President Bonahue thanked Chair Murray and the trustees for their time and service. He thanked Executive Dean Ciampa for hosting the meeting on the Grant campus. He then recognized and thanked Governance leaders Tat Sang So from the Grant Campus, Lizzie McCormick from the Ammerman Campus, Nina Acquavita from the Eastern Campus, as well as Dante Morelli, President of the Faculty Association, Sean Tvelia from the Guild, and Josephine Makowski from AME for attending the meeting.

President Bonahue began with three quick updates. The first was news that the College had received a new grant award from the SUNY system of over \$400,000 to offer noncredit training programs to workers affected by the COVID pandemic. The College will offer noncredit training, either free or at very reduced costs, in ophthalmic technician assistant, health information management, and electronic assembly. He noted it was a team effort and thanked Andrea Dunkirk and Arlene Jackson from Continuing Education, Laura Galletta and John Lombardo from Workforce Training, and Dr. Troy Tucker and his staff for putting the proposal together.

Secondly, Executive Vice President Petrizzo and he met earlier that morning with Roger Clayman regarding the Off-Shore Wind Training Center. The good news is that Orsted has reengaged in the planning process. They had gone silent for a bit, but are reengaged and they are developing now a concrete funding plan moving forward. They've even shown goodwill by making the first deposit into the account of the training center that gets the ball rolling for training purposes.

Third, as Dr. Harris had referenced, enrollment for spring is continuing to lag behind expectations. In the past two weeks the Omicron variant has continued to cause some concern, however, the College has seats available on all campuses in all modalities in gateway courses - the courses that students are most likely to need access to. The College is doing capacity studies to continue to understand what it needs to get back to even, and is adding that capacity where it needs to go. He reported enrollment projections are trending down as much as 10%.

President Bonahue said he would move onto the Wyandanch project update. (Whereupon Chair Murray recused himself and exited the room).

Dr. Bonahue called upon Trustee Sanders to provide a historical background and review what the Wyandanch Project is, and said they would then discuss some ways that the College could be involved.

Trustee Sanders said she was recusing herself as a Board member and presenting as a community leader. She noted she has been with the Urban League of Long Island as President and CEO for close to 30 years and has had a relationship with the College for about 20 years outside of her role as a Board member.

She said Wyandanch started out with a very vibrant working-class community, historically, and then the 70s hit where there was a population decline in that particular community. Then the community was hit with the mortgage crisis in 2008, and it steadily declined in terms of its infrastructure and the socioeconomic challenges that it was facing. The school district continued to struggle producing students that were able to be as competitive as they should be in the local workforce and the economy. They are now looking at how to sustain that community. They are doing this under a new normal of COVID-19 and the current economic standpoint. They believe that if they can help people get good jobs and then provide additional resources so that they can then buy houses, then they can reinvest in their communities and they can turn around the community. They believe it all starts with the investment in the people, so, in this particular project, the Urban League has started working on focusing in on workforce and workforce development - what those skills and tools are that the community needs.

The project plans to target a very specific population - high schoolers up to about 25 years old. They do not plan on turning anyone away from services, but they are targeting that specific age group that appears to be the most vulnerable. Currently, Wyandanch has a majority Hispanic population; the second largest population is African- American, and a very small white and other undescribed population in the area. She said with the arrival of Dr. Bonahue, she was excited to revisit the project and begin conversations on the potential synergy they could bring between the Wyandanch project and the College, and build a vibrant model that they can take to other underserved communities. She made note of the Off-Shore Wind project, saying that those are the types of jobs that the College's students should be moving towards, but if they aren't provided with the pipeline to get to these jobs, who else will? She then turned it back to Dr. Bonahue to discuss some of the details they have been discussing in terms of the project.

Trustee Morgo noted the project was consistent with the mission of the College. He asked how the Wyandanch Rising buildings were doing - if it was having a positive effect on the community. Trustee Sanders said from an anecdotal standpoint, things have changed, there is vibrancy in the village, and it is now referred to as "the Village" area which is all around the train station, and has transformed into a regional hub. People that live in Dix Hills, Half Hallow Hills, that are commuting to the city are comfortable parking their cars there now. It transformed the community and, from what she understands, there are no vacancies – rather, waiting lists for an apartment. The property is clean and well-maintained.

Dr. Bonahue said that as Trustee Morgo had observed, the College's involvement falls in line with its mission of serving an underserved community, where the College can possibly provide exposure to career options, workforce training, and increase familiarity

with opportunities at the College. A formal needs-analysis was conducted by Suffolk County pre-COVID and needs to be updated. However, there are opportunities to work with youth and young adults and to connect them with better career opportunities. President Bonahue said he spoke with Suffolk County Commissioner Drago and she is committed to updating the needs-analysis. The Suffolk County Department of Labor has agreed to take on the long-term lease with Albanese. The Urban League, would have a sublease from Suffolk County. This makes it possible for the Urban League to then enter into licensing agreements with, not only the College, but also with a training provider or deliverer of social services who can bring something to the area. Dr. Bonahue and Trustee Sanders have discussed candidates for an advisory board; in addition to Suffolk's personnel, likely candidates will be someone from the Commissioner of Labor's office, NYS Assemblywoman Kimberly Jean-Pierre, who has been on this project from the beginning, representation from the Wyandanch schools, from the Town of Babylon, from the IDA, and from the County Executive's office. He asked the Board if they have any recommendations on additions to the advisory committee to let him know. Dr. Bonahue said there wasn't any formal recommendation or request, however he felt it was appropriate to give an update and have a public reset to be sure that everyone is on the same page and answer any questions in regards to the project and College's involvement.

Trustee Canary asked if there was a timeframe. Dr. Bonahue said it was his understanding that Suffolk County has identified about a half-million dollars in funds to renovate the retail section of the Wyandanch Rising complex within the horseshoe opposite the train station; however, he wasn't aware of a timeline. Trustee Sanders said if all goes well, they are looking at maybe a soft launch in the fall of 2022. They plan to start some pre-programming in January within the school district, but expect the physical space to be ready to start in spring of 2022.

Trustee Zarate noted the school district has an estimated 2,700 students, of which 1,105 are African-American and 1,546 are Hispanic or Latino, and asked how many students were they looking to support and service through the Wyandanch project. She noted that these are the students that consistently struggle, especially the Latinx students. Some of them come from a different country and are learning the language. They are newcomers and oftentimes fail the Regents exams 2 or 3 times before they can actually pass it because they are not only struggling with a different academic system, different standards of education, but also the language.

Dr. Bonahue said he wanted to connect the dots between Trustee Zarate's observation and question and the need for an advisory committee to give the College more specific suggestions on the kinds of secondary or postsecondary solutions that can really make a difference in the community. He also wants to make a connection between this opportunity and enrollment, because if this is a community that is almost a first-generation community, or does not have the benefits of parents who have attended college, then the College needs to have the kind of structures in place that make it clear that college is for everyone and that Suffolk is their best opportunity on the pathway to success.

Trustee Sanders agreed and thanked Trustee Zarate for the very poignant question. She said part of their challenge as a community-based organization is the evolution of their communities and part of the challenge will be how to get them to see the possibilities that are available to them that can help them be successful in school and move onto college. She hopes Trustee Zarate will refer some people for the advisory board because it's going to be extremely important to have the right partner leadership. Trustee Zarate agreed.

Trustee Morgo said both were great questions and observations. He congratulated Dr. Bonahue and whoever else was responsible for getting the business arrangement where the College is not on the lease because it lessens the College's exposure.

With the end of the presentation Trustee O'Connor went to notify Chair Murray that he could return to the meeting. President Bonahue apologized to Christian Limbach, Vice President of AME, for his oversight in recognizing he was at the meeting and thanked him for being present. (Chair Murray reentered the room).

Dr. Bonahue thanked the Trustees for supporting his participation on the HIA board and thanked Trustee O'Connor for connecting him to the HIA and Terri Alessi-Miceli. He asked the Trustees if they had other suggestions for important relationships for the College, to please help him make those connections.

Lastly, he said the President's office was partnering with the Office of Institutional Advancement and the Foundation to send a holiday greeting card on behalf of the College. It's designed to be a generic holiday greeting card, but also will have an insert encouraging friends of the College to take advantage of this charitable time of year to express their support for the students and the College's mission. The cards will be sent to the College's education and public sector partners without the Foundation insert. The card with the insert will be sent to the Foundation's list of friends of the College, retirees and some other business partners. This is in place, this year, of an end-of-year letter the Foundation has sent in the past. The cost of the card will only be the postage. Dr. Bonahue wished the Board happy holidays, and thanked them for their support during his first six months at the College.

Chair Murray moved onto Roundtable. Trustee Canary shared that it was good news that the Section XI insurance issue was resolved.

Chair Murray called for a motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Morgo so moved, Student Trustee Frost seconded, and with all in favor, the Board of Trustees meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

The Board of Trustees next meeting is February 17, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Learning Resource Center, Michael J. Grant Campus, Brentwood, New York.

Respectfully submitted,
Gordon Canary
Secretary