

**MEETING OF THE
EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

August 13, 2015

Minutes

The External Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees of Houston Community College held a meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2015, at the HCC Administration Building, Second Floor Auditorium, 3100 Main, Houston, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Zeph Capo, Board Chair
Carolyn Evans-Shabazz, *Committee Member*
Eva Loreda, *Committee Member*
Dave Wilson, *Alternate Committee Member*

ADMINISTRATION

Cesar Maldonado, Chancellor
Shantay Grays, Chief of Staff
Ashley Smith, Acting General Counsel
Kimberly Beatty, Vice Chancellor, Instructional Services, Chief Academic Officer
Pheryl Prestage for William Carter, Vice Chancellor, Information Technology
Butch Herod, Vice Chancellor, Innovation, Planning and Institutional Analytics
Irene Porcarello, Interim Vice Chancellor, Student Services
Teri Zamora, Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration
Margaret Ford Fisher, President, Northeast College
Fena Garza, President, Southwest College
William Harmon, President, Central College
Zachary Hodges, President, Northwest College
Phillip Nicotera, President, Coleman College
Rudy Soliz, Interim President, Southeast College
Janet May, Chief Human Resources Officer

OTHERS PRESENT

Michelle Mihalick, Board Counsel, Bracewell & Giuliani
Susan Goll, President, Faculty Senate
Other administrators, citizens and representatives from the news media

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Zeph Capo, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. and declared the Board convened to consider matters pertaining to Houston Community College as listed on the duly posted Meeting Notice.

(The following Trustees were present: Capo, Evans-Shabazz, Glaser, Loredo, and Wilson).

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dr. Maldonado noted that Mr. Remmele Young would provide a review of the final 84th Legislative Report.

Mr. Young provided the following presentation as a summary of the Legislative Session to include:

- State Appropriations (2016-2017)
- Community Colleges' Appropriations (2016-2017)
- HCC State Appropriations
- Rider 23 Reporting Requirement
- Higher Education Group Insurance (HEGI)
- HCC Group Insurance
- Teacher Retirement System (TRS)
- Optional Retirement Plan (ORP)
- Student Financial Aid & Grants
- Legislative Appropriations Requests (Exceptional Items)
- Dual Credit Statutory Change

Mr. Capo inquired if any of the grant categories are governed by state guidelines. Mr. Young informed that he would review and provide a response.

Mrs. Loredo inquired of the Be on Time grant. Mrs. Zamora apprised that it is a grant for students to finish without excess hours. She noted that it starts as a loan and if the criteria are met, it becomes a grant.

Mr. Capo requested that Mr. Young provide a review of the Dual Credit Statutory change to clarify how the bill moved forward. Mr. Young noted that HCC offered an amendment to the bill to allow students from school districts to choose which community college they will work with. He informed that a floor amendment was filed when the bill made it to the House and noted that the amended bill was passed to include the opportunity for community colleges to come into HCC's service area but does not allow HCC to go into those areas. Mr. Young apprised that the original bill would have allowed HCC to go into the service area of other community colleges but was removed through the amendment. He noted that a review needs to be conducted to determine what the students are able to do versus the college. Mr. Young informed that the college's amendment remains valid.

Mr. Young continued with the summary as follows:

- Campus Carry Law
- HCC Proposed Legislation
 - Hire Local First
 - Bachelor of Science Nursing (BSN)
 - Property Tax Reform

Dr. Maldonado apprised that HCC is reviewing the procedures of other entities regarding the Campus Carry Law. Mr. Capo noted that in addition to reviewing the options of other institutions, ask General Counsel to review potential risks for non-compliance.

Mr. Young informed that the Hire Local First proposed legislation failed passage.

Mr. Young apprised that BSN proposed legislation failed passage and noted that the chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee agreed to work on the initiative during the interim-session.

Mr. Capo inquired if there has been an effort to review options to bring together partners in the higher education arena. Dr. Maldonado informed that there were compelling testimonies regarding lower costs of a BSN at the community college level. He apprised that the four-year institutions provided overwhelming concerns. Dr. Maldonado noted that HCC will be a part of an interim study to be completed.

Dr. Evans-Shabazz inquired of the opposition regarding the Hire Local First bill. Mr. Young noted that the response has been that it should be a free market.

Mr. Young informed that there was a delegation of approximately sixty students that joined the team in Austin, Texas along with Trustee Capo and Dr. Maldonado.

UPDATE ON HCC 2016 APPLICATION TO THE COMMISSION OF PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES

Dr. Maldonado apprised that the efforts continue regarding the presidential debate. He noted that Ms. Shantay Grays would provide an update on the status.

Mrs. Grays provided an update to include:

- Presidential Debate Site Visit Complete
- 201c3 Application Filing
- External Fundraising Consultant
- Business Leaders Co-chairs for Fundraising
- New Window for Hosting, September 19, 2015 – October 28, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business coming before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

Minutes recorded, transcribed & submitted by:

Melinda Davila, Executive Secretary, Board Services

Minutes Approved as Submitted: September 17, 2015