



Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting Minutes

Saturday, March 15, 2025

The Clubhouse at Woodrun on Lake Tillery

938 Woodrun Dr.

Mt. Gilead, NC 27371

1. 8:30 am - Breakfast

2. Call to Order - Gordon Knowles, Chair

The Annual Retreat of the Montgomery Community College Board of Trustees was called to order by Gordon Knowles, Chair at 9:03 AM.

Board Members Present:

Gordon Knowles, Chair; Robert Harris, Vice-Chair; Bill Price, Secretary; Claudia Bulthuis, Gelynda Capel, Dr. Katie Dunlap, Susan Eggleston, Kerry Hensley, Dr. Philip Jones; Mike Mills, and Dr. Tawanda Matthews (9:16AM)

Board Members Absent:

Timothy McAuley

Guests Present:

Dr. Chad Bledsoe, President; Jeanette McBride, Sr. Vice-President of Administration; Dr. Natalie Winfree, Vice-President of Instruction and Student Services; Hunter Smith, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness and Advancement; Korrie Ervin, Special Projects/Grants Writer; Susanna Kornegay, Director of Resource Development; Kelly Morgan, Public Relations and Marketing Director, Dr. Dale McInnis, Retired President of Richmond Community College; and Rene Perryman, Executive Assistant to the President/Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees

3. Welcome and Announcements - Gordon Knowles

Mr. Knowles welcomed Trustees and guests and asked Dr. Chad Bledsoe, President to introduce the special guest speaker.

Dr. Bledsoe introduced Dr. Dale McInnis, retired President of Richmond Community College.

4. Approval of Agenda- (Action) - Gordon Knowles

Mr. Knowles called for a motion to approve the agenda.

Moved by: Bill Price

Seconded by: Dr. Katie Dunlap

Motion passed.

5. Board of Ethics Reminder- (Action) Gordon Knowles

Mr. Knowles read the ethics statement, reminding Board Members of Chapter 138A of the State Government Ethics Act and the Montgomery Community College Board Policy 1.4 Conflict of Interest, and asked if there were any potential or actual conflicts of interest.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

6. Legislative and Industry Outlook - Dr. Dale McInnis

Dr. McInnis gave a presentation on the intersection of North Carolina's political landscape, regional and state economic development and the local college and system for the next two years.

Dr. McInnis shared with Trustees the North Carolina State Budget process. The NCCCS two year budget request is built around Propel NC, which will align program and courses FTE values with North Carolina job values.

Dr. McInnis spoke about House Bill 365 and described the benefits of this bill.

Dr. McInnis answered follow up questions from the Trustees.

Dr. McInnis discussed Economic Development and the college's roll in that development.

Dr. McInnis reminded Trustees and guests of the college's assets including the location of the college, the beautiful landscape with the state and national forests. The strong relationship with the school system and stable enrollment at the college are an advantage.

7. Break

8. Presidential Outlook - Dr. Bledsoe

Dr. Bledsoe shared a presentation with Board members about enrollment trends of the college trends, the age of the population in Montgomery County, as well as the plans of the college to retain and recruit students.

Dr. Bledsoe discussed the economic, financial, and facilities outlook of the college, as well as the expected challenges in achieving some of the goals.

9. Strategic Plan Update - Hunter Smith

Hunter Smith presented fifth year Strategic Plan objectives.

10. Strategic Planning Break-out Session

Hunter Smith discussed the 3 Strategic Planning Town Hall meetings that have taken place in the county.

The Trustees divided into small groups of 2-3 members and, with the assistance of college staff members who recorded their responses, answered the same questions that were posed to community members during the college's recent Town Hall meetings in Montgomery County.

11. Board Self-Evaluation Review

Hunter Smith informed Board members that the Board Self-Evaluation that was provided in the packet.

Mr. Knowles asked for this item be tabled until the April 9, 2025 Board meeting.

12. Fun Activity (Trivia Quiz)

Board members and guests took the Graduation Trivia Quiz. Mrs. Perryman read the answers and those with the most correct answers were given table centerpieces as a prize.

13. Adjourn - Mr. Knowles

The Retreat adjourned at 12:16 PM.



Chairman