

Board of Directors Meeting

Zoom Videoconference

Thursday, November 19, 2020

5:30pm – 7:00pm

Called to Order: 5:35pm | **Ended:** 6:55pm

Directors Present: Adam Sanchez, Joseph Simmons, Luther Aaberg, Chris Kovach, Tasion Kwamilele, Guy Ben Ari, Rudy Besikof, Patricia Brooks, Andre Chambers, Robyn Fisher, Dr. Angélica Garcia, Trustee Linda Handy, David Johnson, Ed.D, Don Miller, and Sally Swanson.

Directors Absent: Michael Bernick, Mark Bosuego, Trustee Meredith Brown, Andre Chambers, Tamika Greenwood, Seth Steward and Will Wilson

Staff Present: LaNiece Jones, Mashariki White, Ana Cervantes, Brian Bouldin

I. Meeting Called to Order

Board President, Adam Sanchez at **5:35pm**

- Adam provided the introduction of the new chancellor and Board members Luther and Chris Kovach
- Riki provided an update on reviewers for scholarships; noted 57 reviewers, 256 reviews required, more than half of the Bernard Osher scholarship applications have been reviewed. We are ahead of the 12/4 deadline but more reviewers are needed.

II. Roll Call & Approval of August Board Minutes

Board Vice President, Joseph Simmons

Attendees noted

Approval of August 27, 2020 Meeting Minutes – Chris Kovach requested correction to August 27, 2020 meeting minutes to say he had resigned from KPMG, not retired. Request acknowledged.

Motion: Patricia Brooks

Second: Guy Ben Ari

Abstained: Dr. Carla Walters

Motion passes

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Board Chair Update

Board President, Adam Sanchez

- Adam reminded the board to support and push the \$50k peer-to-peer campaign drive which has a deadline of Dec 31st.
- Adam congratulated Patricia Brooks who was featured in the MG Magazine for Merritt

College and the Horticulture program that will also receive a \$10,000 scholarship grant from Harborside.

Officers Report –

Treasurer's Report, Luther Aaberg

- Luther outlined the finance team's goals which include:
 - Update policies and procedures to identify what changes needs to be made to bring documents up to date;
 - Review and streamline the financial products including the investment advisors restricted funds to make them more efficient
 - Keep the board up to date on various matters
 - Bring items to the board for approval like the policy changes, audit reports, budget, etc.
- Auditors recommended that all board members sign a conflict of interest form. Forms will be distributed to board members
- Foundation's PPP \$21,500 loan received on July 1st is potentially eligible for partial or full forgiveness. Waiting on banks to determine.
- Current COVID environment has affected our revenue although we are still in good standing for first quarter reporting. Revenue is under 20%.
- On the expense side we are on target quarter-to-date, 25.09%
- Investment returns are doing well. Market is volatile. September shows a lot of negatives but we recovered in October. The year-to-date is very positive.
- Wants to ensure compliance with UMPIFA.
- Wants to start a finance checklist which shows time schedules etc. for when the audit starts, its progress and estimated completion time, budget timeline and any other activities the finance committee would like to log and have a timeframe to present to the board so that everyone knows what to expect throughout the year
- Eide Bailley plans to have a draft of the audit ready next week and be able to present that to the finance committee in December. The finance committee will present it to the board in January and finally submit it to the Peralta District.

V. Greetings

Interim Chancellor Dr. Carla Walter provided general remarks about her excitement to be with the District

VI. Committee Reports

Scholarship Review Committee, Robyn Fisher

- Scholarship timeline Oct 1 – March 1
- Need 130 more Bernard Osher Scholarship application reviews to meet December 4th deadline.
- Requesting board members and their colleagues help in the application reviews
- Please also consider helping review spring 2021 applications – review period starts March 2, 2021

Fundraising, Patricia Brooks

- Patricia and Sally Swanson (rotarian) continue to develop a partnership with San Francisco Rotary Club for a new scholarship.
- Also, working with Ces Butner's Foundation

VII. Executive Director Report

Campaigns LaNiece Jones

- "Together We Can Make a Difference" – rolled out first to faculty, staff and administrators to each give \$25.00 with a goal set to raise \$50,000. To date, we have raised \$3,300 with 51 donors. We will continue to push for more awareness amongst donors to support students.
- Giving Tuesday campaign prep is happening to lead in to year-end appeal.
- Fundraising Updates

- Working with (PAAAA) Peralta African American Affairs Association, they have put together a \$25,000 proposal to Bank of the West
- Submitted a proposal to the NAACP who are interested in giving \$10,000
- Working with a Facebook contact to design opportunities for all four colleges which may include scholarships and recruiting opportunities for students in STEM
- Working with Oakland ROOTS organization and they have identified several investments they want to make in College of Alameda and Merritt College
- James Irvine Foundation has submitted a \$100,000 proposal to support Merritt College/ESO Ventures entrepreneurial program
- Jobs for the Future has given a \$40,000 grant for Berkeley City College
- Worked with Interim President Don Miller to solidify a \$6,000 two-year scholarship from Alameda Rotary for College of Alameda students

Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Student Success Dr. Siri Brown presented on student data and highlighted key successes within the District

Meeting Adjourned

Board President, Adam Sanchez at **6:55pm**