

## Session #910

A meeting of the Mt. Hood Community College District Board of Education was held on January 13, 2016, with a workshop in the President's Office at 6 p.m. There was a Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at Mt. Hood Community College, 26000 S.E. Stark Street, Gresham, Oregon.

### **WORKSHOP**

Board Members in attendance: Susie Jones (Chair), Jim Zordich (Vice Chair), Teena Ainslie, Sonny Yellott, Kenney Polson, Michael Calcagno, Tamie Arnold

Al Sigala introduced Paige Richardson from Springwater Consultants. Richardson shared the results of the second survey. Based on the results presented, Richardson and the team strongly recommend a May ballot.

### **CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM**

Board Members in attendance: Susie Jones (Chair), Jim Zordich (Vice Chair), Teena Ainslie, Sonny Yellott, Kenney Polson, Michael Calcagno, Tamie Arnold

A meeting of the MHCC District Board was called to order at 7:07 p.m. A quorum was present.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Zordich moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Arnold moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Marilyn Pitts, President of the PFTA commented on behalf of the over 500 part-time faculty and tutors in the PFTA. MHCC is well-respected in the community and provides an excellent education and training. PFTA leadership has discussed the potential bond and are in support of this it, and she hopes that the board will vote to support the opportunity for the community members to voice their support for us.

### **BUSINESS/ACTION**

#### **AUDIT**

Angelique Whitlow of TKW presented the results of the audit, as submitted by the Audit Committee. She distributed copies of the audit committee's report to all of the board members.

A copy of the report is included in the official minutes and is available on the College website. TKW also submitted a letter to the board.

Derr gave the board an overview of the audit process, including the role of audit committee. The College received approval of the audit at the last audit committee meeting; the board simply accepts the audit, but the audit does not change.

Zordich remarked on the complexity of the audit, having served on the audit committee. He commended TKW and the Business Office staff. Whitlow remarked that it takes them approximately 1000 hours to complete the audit.

Zordich moved to accept the audit as approved by the audit committee. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

#### GO BOND RESOLUTION

Paige Richardson, Al Sigala, and Fred Sanchez introduced a Consideration of a General Obligation Bond Measure to be Placed on the May 2016 Ballot. Richardson noted that the College starts ahead and will stay ahead. Voters love and value MHCC; the survey response was phenomenal. Richardson and the bond committee recommend the May election and believes that when voters hear the specifics, they will support the measure.

Fred Sanchez, co-chair of the Friends of MHCC PAC, introduced himself and spoke about his personal connection to MHCC. He encouraged the board to bring forward a ballot measure in the amount of \$125 million and pledges to work toward an overwhelming yes vote.

Arnold moved that:

The MHCCD Board of Education declares that it is the intention of the district to develop a \$125-million bond package for inclusion on the May, 2016 ballot. It is further directed that the bond package include the following items:

1. Construct a new Workforce an Applied Technology Center to advance efforts in preparing students for living wage jobs. \$28m
2. Construct a new Northeast Portland (Maywood Park) campus building to better serve students in this area of the college's district. Provide career pathways that allow a student to complete their education at this campus. \$23m
3. Improve the safety and security of students, employees and community members while on our college campuses. Invest in new security and safety measures, provide for a new keyless entry system. Address essential seismic upgrades, deferred maintenance, and campus improvements. Address technology infrastructure including wireless connectivity, improvements to web-based learning and student services. \$47m

4. Conserve and better utilize college resources by addressing the College's current capital debt. Paying off current debt will free up nearly \$2.5 million per year to support educational efforts. \$27m

The board further directs the administration to work with bond counsel to develop the plans for utilization of the bond funds and to develop the bond language for the ballot. The bond is estimated to cost property owners \$.30 per \$1,000 assessed home value, \$30 per year for a \$100,000 assessed value residence with a 20-year repayment term. The board also directs that a citizen committee be established to oversee use of the funds.

Zordich seconded the motion. Jones asked for discussion.

Yellott expressed concerns about the property tax increases.

Zordich stated that there are compelling reasons to pass this bond, the most compelling of which is that the facility is 50 years old. We want to expand opportunities for our community and allow us to serve them. He stated that his grandchildren will be attending this college, and he wants it to be a first-class facility.

Arnold noted that we are looking very specifically at our community and what they value, and we know unequivocally that they support us. As stewards, she stated that we know this college is going to be here for a long time. We can be good stewards by paying off the debt. First and foremost, our college has a lot of deferred maintenance.

Polson wanted to speak about how important the bond is for our owners – our community. This college was here before we got here, and he is expecting to move this college into a position to be able to promote education in the future. As a person who represents underserved people in this community, he knows for a fact that education is the key to success, and we would do a serious disservice to this community to not move it forward. As a person who has been elected by this community, he feels a responsibility to stand up for those who do not have that voice and who need that education. He will vote yes for the bond and will work hard to see that it passes.

Calcagno stated that he loves the College, a beacon of hope and opportunity for those who want to improve their lives. He believes that the board's role is to be good stewards. Speaking with constituents in our district, he also knows that it is incredibly difficult right now to make a living. He believes we need a more serious and robust effort, and a longer runway to get the bond effort going. He strongly believes that the timeline to the May election is not enough. He believes we need more time. He believes that the resolution is missing a commitment to use locally-based contractors. Derr clarified that Board Policy already directs the College to give preference to local vendors. Calcagno will vote no.

Ainslie remarked that she does not believe the timeline is an issue. She is totally in favor of the bond. She noted how much has changed since the last bond effort in 1974. She believes that it is crisis time to pass the bond.

Jones stated that it is clear in her mind that this college desperately needs the bond. There is a deadline; if we do not pass the measure in 2016, we will lose the \$8m match from the state for capital improvements. She trusts the bond consultations and the team who recommended the May vote.

Arnold asked about the matching funds – is it possible to ask for an extension? Derr responded that, no, we had already done so during the last session. We would lose the funding but would be put on a waiting list. For this funding, this is our only opportunity.

Derr addressed Calcagno's concern about local contractors. Jennifer DeMent pointed out the state law does not allow us to strictly use local contractors; we can only give preference.

Polson addressed Calcagno's concern. He stated that, now that we are clear about the contractors, all that is left is the "runway." He asked for Calcagno's support because he believes that the school needs the bond.

Jones called for a vote: Ainslie, Zordich, Jones, Polson, and Arnold voted in favor of the resolution. Calcagno and Yellott voted no.

The motion carried.

BOARD POLICY 6220 (second reading)

Jarrold Hogue presented Board Policy 6220 for a second reading and approval.

Zordich moved to approve the policy. Arnold seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

HEAD START POLICY

Jean Wagner presented a new policy for Head Start. The policy comes because of changes in policy and recommendations from the CDC. She will bring the policy back for a second reading in February.

TRIMET

Rick Doughty introduced Shirley Craddick, Metro Councilor, to give an update on the Powell-Division project. Also in attendance were Metro project manager Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara, TriMet project manager Kelly Betteridge, TriMet manager David Unsworth, and consultant designer/architect, James McGrath.

Craddick and Unsworth discussed the proposed Bus Rapid Transit system along the Powell-Division corridor. Decisions have not yet been made as to the exact route the buses will take, but the corridor is already a heavily used transit route, with up to 18,000 riders daily. The idea is that the rapid transit will be faster, more reliable, and service an “education corridor,” with MHCC as the terminus.

Unsworth noted that the steering committee is looking for federal support and will be looking to MHCC for a non-binding MOU. They hope to have an Intergovernmental Agreement by February of 2017, with the first bus running in September 2020.

Yellott asked about improved security. Unsworth responded that 300,000 people get on a bus every day, and that security has been stepped up in a number of different ways. Each bus has a camera, and they are working with the city of Gresham and the city of Portland to make sure that everything is as safe as possible. The architects would look at crime prevention through design. He thanked Yellott for his concerns.

Jones sees great potential and is excited for the project’s potential. She asked if there is a concern in MHCC becoming a park-and-ride. Unsworth responded that this would be a challenge; there are ways to monitor the issue. If it became a significant issue, there would be further action that would have to be taken.

Seth Albert stated that he knows how difficult it is to get to campus from far off campus; he believes it will be a great asset for students. He asked if we would have the center or the buses by 2020; Unsworth responded that we would have both.

Polson asked about land donation – how much would be needed? Unsworth responded that he does not know the square footage, but it is approximately 1.8 – 2 acres.

Derr noted that Trimet cannot be the answer to all of our transportation needs for our students. Sitting on EMEA, she has had a number of conversations about transportation. With that, there are internal conversations about how we can work with Trimet or independently offer transit to get people from Max stations to transit or to campus. Doughty noted that we had asked about the need for North-South connectors, and they have been working to make improvements. For example, could we connect our Maywood students to the Sandy Max stop. Derr emphasized that the Trimet connection is critical, but that we can do more to work with them to supplement.

Calcagno also serves on the steering committee and is excited about the BRT project. He believes it can do great things for the college. He noted the design of the Head Start area close to the proposed hub and hopes that safety issues will be considered.

Doughty stated that next steps include updating the Master Plan – we would look at the Trimet plan, if the board wants us to look seriously. In March, the steering committee would settle on the route. In March of 2017, we would need to be prepared to committing the land in a donation or long-term lease.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Derr stated that we ended last term with a sinkhole and begin Winter Term with ice. She stated to the board that it is always a difficult decision whether or not to close the campus. Our college does not have a snow removal budget, nor do we have equipment; the Facilities and Public Safety staff put in a physical and difficult effort to get the campus open. She thanked the staff. A debrief took place, and areas of improvement were noted.

At the end of the year, Derr attended OPC in Eugene. Considerable conversation was had about the short session, with two primary legislative agendas to work on with the legislature. One is around campus and college safety, particularly resources to help Umpqua. Their shutdown was very expensive. There is a statewide safety meeting on Friday, and a team from MHCC will be attending. The second big item is the Oregon Promise. Today, a legislative committee meeting took place, and Christie Plinski led a team to talk about our AVID program. On December 14<sup>th</sup>, Derr attended the Oregon Leadership Summit to discuss the future of Oregon and how to make our state a better state. Jones and Derr met with the Oregon Trail School Board. She also met with Rep. Mark Johnson and continues to meet with Andrea Cook about Gateway/Parkrose area partnerships.

The Cranberry Short Courses were success.

Volunteers came to campus on Saturday before term to open Bookstore and Orientation Center - Derr thanked Waldon Hagan and the people who worked to serve students.

Lidia Yuknavitch is a finalist for the Oregon Book Award for "The Small Backs of Children."

Derr thanked the board for supporting the bond. It has been ten years since this institution has gone out for a GO Bond. When Derr was hired, the board had a number of things on her to-do list, one of which was to pass a bond. The community has said to us, this is the time. It is the culmination of 18 months involving our community, our employees, and our Business and Industry partners, addressing the future of this college. She stated that it is important for the board to remember that we went out into the community with meetings and surveys, and we listened. First and foremost, we heard that the community needs MHCC to provide training and education to help improve quality of life. The "how" is jobs. There are jobs in East County going unfilled because the training is not there. They told us that they love this college, but we also heard - "you need our help?" The CEO of Adventist asks why we are not training Medical Assistants. We need a Mekatronics program - why can't we do that right now? About economic vitality; about creating jobs.

## **BOARD MEMBER/ADVISORY COMMENTS**

Jeff Forbis stated that he has heard nothing but excitement from Managers and Confidential employees about the bond effort; the group will be there and is eager to support.

Seth Albert stated that the ASG has been preparing for the GO Bond and are in full support. He will read the resolution to the Executive Cabinet. Students will put in the effort outside of their office hours. ASG held their winter retreat last week to set goals, one of which is that Wallace Medical Center will be reinstated hopefully and advertised more. The mascot/logo competition is underway and is student led. Students are working in support of Lights Out For Scholars with Sustainability Council. The Student Life app is going well, but ASG will make another push for new members. They are working with the Food Services committee to address issues to better serve students, and with IT to improve wifi and educate students about technology available. ASG is in contact with Aquatics to have student events and improve student usage. They will be conducting Financial Literacy Workshops to guide students in filling out tax forms, FAFSA.

This Saturday about 70 students will attend the Voter Conference to kick off voter registration.

Calcagno passed.

Arnold asked if it was possible to get Al or someone from the foundation board on a regular basis. Zordich attends the foundation Board and noted that they are currently focusing on scholarships, the April Auction, and the GO Bond. He will provide Foundation Board updates in the future.

Polson reiterated that he is excited about the bond and is here to work for it.

Jones believes that the bond is critical to the success of the college and has heard from our bond consultants that it is possible. The stated that the board needs the mentality of asking for next project.

Zordich noted that he and Jones met with Mayor Bemis and were received well. Mayor Bemis is willing to endorse our bond campaign. He appreciates the amount of effort that has gone on for the bond.

Yellott would like to address the bond. He hopes that it will go as the college wishes, but he has reservations about the tax.

Ainslie is very interested in the bond and feels that some of the major groups like the auto industry and the medical industry and the swimmers can help with the fundraising and promotion.

Huston states that \$3.75 per month for the bond will not prevent him from supporting the bond. He benefitted greatly from his education and MHCC and has an obligation to ensure the college is viable in the future. He really hopes that all board members will help support the bond in the community.

Boyle stated that she is very excited about the board voting on the bond.

Pitts thanked the board for voting in favor of the bond – all members. She hopes that they are actively engaged in support. She spoke with Brett Nair to get some clarification about what she could do as a staff member. She reinforced what Derr already said about the staff's hard work on the snow days and will e-mail Rick Doughty, to thank the Facilities staff for their effort. She also thanked Bruce Battle for the communication received and Waldon Hagan for the extra Saturday help.

Jones reminded the board that there will be a brief work session after the meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Zordich moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

## **WORK SESSION**

Board Members in attendance: Susie Jones (Chair), Jim Zordich (Vice Chair), Teena Ainslie, Sonny Yellott, Kenney Polson, Tamie Arnold

Jones reconvened workshop. She stated that no action will be taken, but she wanted to speak to the board team and emphasize some board by-laws and general principles. She stated that the split vote must be respected, but, per Board Policy 9060, board members will support the principle by majority rule; the board will respect dissenting votes but move forward as a unit.

Jones stressed the importance of working together as a team and making sure that the team stays on message – if they are out talking about the bond, stay on message with the bond.

She also addressed BP 9100 – working with one voice, with that voice being the Board Chair. Jones asked that the media be referred to the chair so that the message is consistent.

Derr stated that, in talking with Paige Richardson, Richardson hammers on keeping the message consistent. We know what our community will support us, and that is what we should be focused on. The main points need to be hammered. Jones noted that it is important to have the support of the Mayor of Gresham, and we need to maintain our good relationships.

Derr stated that she spoke with the Sandy City Council. In that meeting, the City Council said that Sandy will never support a school levy. They felt that they had not been given accurate information about their bond. She accepted their view but asked of the City Council to share accurate information about our bond.

Jones also noted BP 9080: do not publicly criticize the college; do not divulge confidential information; do not misrepresent the College or the board. The board members took an oath to