

MINUTES
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES HYBRID MEETING
ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA
FEBRUARY 1, 2024

CALL TO ORDER/OPEN SESSION:

Chairman Douglas Gantt called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. He noted that proper notice was given regarding the meeting to comply with the Freedom of Information Act. The agenda was circulated to the members (Attachment 1). Trustee Jameel Allen gave the invocation.

Board Members Present: Jameel Allen, Ronald Friday, Douglas Gantt, Rodney Jenkins, William Oden, Monica Scott, Wilbur Shuler, Macie Smith, and Daniel Varat. *Ex-Officio Members:* Hank Allen, Zyah Cephus, Alexander Thierry. Starlee Alexander, Louvetta Dicks, Doris Helms, and Franklin Pressley via phone.

Administrators & Others: *President*, Alexander Conyers; *Provost*, Frederick Evans; *CEO of Finance*, Gerald Hubbard Smalls; *Chief of Staff*, Shondra Abraham; *Outside General Counsel*, Pete Balthazor; *Vice President for Athletic*, Dr. Nathan Cochran; *1890 Research Administrator* Delbert Foster; *Vice President for Student Affairs*, Tamara Jeffries-Jackson; *Vice President Institutional Advancement & University Relations*, Sonja Bennett-Bellamy; *Facilities Director*, Ken Davis; *VP Enrollment Management*, Dr. Manicia Finch; *SACSCOC Liaison*, Valerie Goodwin; *Chief Information Officer*, Mr. Eric Ham; *Associate Provost*, Dr. David Staten; *Executive Director of 1890 Research and Extension*, Louis Whitesides; *Administrative Coordinator*, Chrystel Rogers; *Administrative Coordinator and Recorder*, Eartha Mosley; *The Southern Group*, Jeff Griffith; and *Governmental Liaison*, Hope Blackley. There were many other participants in attendance via Zoom.

Media Present: *The T&D Reporter – Gene Zaleski.*

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Gantt asked for a motion to approve the agenda. ***Trustee Jameel Allen made the motion to adopt the amended agenda; it was seconded by Trustee Monica Scott. Motion approved.***

APPROVAL OF MINUTES *Attachment 2*

Chairman Gantt asked for the approval of the minutes from December 7, 2023. ***Trustee Macie Smith made the motion to approve the minutes; it was seconded by Trustee Jameel Allen. Motion approved.***

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman welcome the members back to a new academic year and continued by asking Ms. Valerie Goodwin to come forward to present the University's Mission statement.

MISSION STATEMENT *Attachment 3*

Ms. Valerie Goodwin distributed the University's Mission Statement and proceeded to share information pertaining to CHE and SACSCOC. She stressed the importance of CHE approving any recommended changes to the Mission Statement. Also, the Board of Trustees should regularly review the institution's mission statement as stated by SACSCOC standards 4.2.a. Trustee Friday and Trustee Shuler made comments regarding updating the Mission Statement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Gantt asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. ***Trustee Jameel Allen made the motion to go into Executive Session. It was seconded by Trustee Macie Smith. Motion approved. The following were asked to join Executive Session: President Conyers, Dr. Fredrick Evans, Mr. Hank Allen, Mr. Jeff Griffith, Mrs. Hope Blackley, Ms. Valerie Goodwin, Mr. Alexander Thierry, Dr. Franklin Pressley, and Mrs. Eartha Mosley.***

OPEN SESSION RECONVENED

Chairman Gantt asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session. *Trustee Rodney Jenkins made the motion to go into Open Session. It was seconded by Trustee William Oden. Motion approved. There were no votes or actions was taken while in Executive Session, per the Chairman.*

PRESIDENT'S UPDATES Attachment 4

President Conyers has been engaged in many community activities. He shared highlights on the following events: Houston/ Dallas Alumni Visit whereas \$100K was gifted to the University. He visited the Toyota North America Head Quarters where SC State has an inter there doing a wonderful job. A new Governmental Liaison was hired, Mrs. Hope Blackley. She will be responsible for keeping the University apprised with pending legislation that may affect the University. Timothy Wiley will be hosted by Aramark at the Aramark Corporate Headquarters for Emerging Leaders Engagement for the Thurgood Marshall College Fund. Senate Finance Presentation is scheduled for February 22, 2024. The President ask will \$404M will the hopes for enough funding for a new library. Dr. Louis Whitesides was named Vice President of Research. President Conyers shared that Governor McMaster called for study to consider consolidating college ahead of "enrollment cliff."

STANDING COMMITTEES

Academic Affairs

The Committee Chair, Dr. Louvetta shared a summary from the committee.

Finance and Administration/Operations Committee

The Committee Chair, Monica Scott deferred to Dr. Smalls, who communicated a summary and concluded with one resolution for approval. Trustee Monica Scott stated that resolution for Queen Village Contract was not quite ready; therefore, it was deferred.

Public Relations/Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations Committee

The Committee Chair, Jameel Allen shared a review from the committee.

Public Service and Agriculture Committee

The Committee Chair, Starlee Alexander gave a brief from the committee.

Sponsored Research and Information Technology Committee

The Committee Chair, Ronald Friday imparted a summary from the committee.

Student Affairs and Athletics Committee

The Committee Chair, Hank Allen provided a short synopsis from the committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

With no other matters to discuss, the Chair asked for a motion to adjourn. *Trustee Jameel Allen moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Trustee Monica Scott. Motion Approved.*

The meeting adjourned at 2:23 PM.

Submitted by,



Eartha Mosley

Recorder

Attachments

- 1 – Agenda
- 2 – Minutes
- 3 – Mission Statement
- 4 – President's Update