

**NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL STUDY SESSION MINUTES
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
NMC Hagerty Center, Room C**

CALL TO ORDER—Chair Chris M. Bott called the regular meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Trustees present: Rachel A. Johnson, Laura J. Oblinger, Andrew K. Robitshek, Kenneth E. Warner, Kennard R. Weaver, Chris M. Bott; Douglas S. Bishop attending remotely from Bonita Springs, Lee County, FL

Also present: President Nick Nissley, Lynne Moritz, Diana Fairbanks, Joy Goodchild, Troy Kierczynski, Mark Liebling, Todd Neibauer, Stephen Siciliano, Rebecca Teahen, Jason Slade, Craig Hadley, Marcus Bennett

REVIEW OF AGENDA—The agenda was accepted as presented.

ANNUAL MEETING BUSINESS

Reading of Notice and Proof of Service—The notice of the annual meeting was read with proof of service on January 12, 2022, attested to by Lynne Moritz, Executive Director of the President's Office and Board Operations.

Report of Secretary—Secretary Ken Warner reported the 2021 Northwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees Annual Meeting minutes were approved on February 22, 2021, and are available online at the [2021 Trustee Meeting Materials and Minutes website](#) along with all other regular meeting minutes.

Report of Treasurer—Treasurer Laura Oblinger reported the annual financial audit for Northwestern Michigan College for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, was accepted by the NMC Board of Trustees on October 25, 2021, and is available online at the NMC Audit Reports website (<https://www.nmc.edu/departments/finance-administration/audits/files/audit-nmc-foundation-2021.pdf>).

Verification of Residential Address and Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement—Trustees were asked to provide their current address where they registered to vote as a renewed verification for the calendar year 2022. Trustees were also provided with Conflict of Interest Disclosure statements for 2022 and asked to return the completed and signed statements to Lynne Moritz in the President's office by February 1, 2022.

Election of Officers—Nomination and election of Board officers were conducted nominations for each office of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer. Kennard Weaver nominated the following slate of officers for 2022: Rachel Johnson for Chairperson; Laura Oblinger for Vice Chairperson; Ken Warner for Treasurer; and Andy Robitshek for Secretary. The slate of officers was unanimously approved by roll call vote taken of those trustees present in-person and eligible to vote.

The remainder of the meeting was continued to be chaired by Rachel A. Johnson. Johnson recognized the enormous amount of change that has taken place since Bott began as chair in 2019, including a presidential transition, pandemic, and strategic planning process. Regular Board Meeting Dates through June 2023 were reviewed and trustees were asked to report any concerns to Lynne Moritz before the dates are posted publicly on January 28, 2022.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

NMC NEXT Strategic Plan 2022-2025

Johnson reviewed the format of the afternoon session and stated the purpose is for trustees to feel informed and engaged in the strategic plan and excited about the future of the college. President Nissley provided a summary of the process to date and thanked trustees for the questions they submitted prior to the meeting, which provided an opportunity for college executive staff to review the plan’s objectives for clarity.

There was discussion regarding the Board’s engagement throughout the process and the goal of today’s session in advance of the plan coming to the Board for action at their regular meeting on Monday, January 24, 2022. It was requested to seek Board input on the objectives prior to this far along in the planning process when strategic planning is undertaken in the future.

Vice President of Strategic Initiatives Jason Slade introduced the format of the discussion, which provided for each strategy champion to give a brief overview of their objectives and address any additional questions of the Board. Trustees were asked to provide questions in advance of the session; those questions and responses were included in the packet of materials. It was noted the five strategies are not in a particular order of priority. Strategies were discussed in the following order by their designated champion:

- Future-Focused Education—Stephen Siciliano, Vice President of Educational Services
- Student Engagement and Success— Todd Neibauer, VP of Student Services & Technologies
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion—Craig Hadley, Executive Director, Dennis Museum Center
- Community Partnerships and Engagement—Jason Slade, VP of Strategic Initiatives
- Institutional Distinction and Sustainability—Troy Kierczynski, VP of Finance & Administration


After each strategy was discussed individually, there was discussion about the strategies as a whole. The Board expressed enthusiasm for the plan, as well as encouraged college employees to be bold and take risks as the implementation of the plan begins and the objectives are continuously reviewed and adjusted. There was also discussion pertaining to the reporting cycle of strategy and objective updates to the Board, for which a review cycle proposed by VP of Strategic Initiatives Jason Slade will be included in the materials for the next regular meeting.

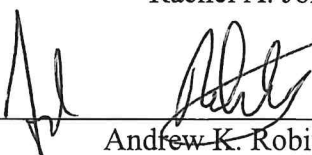
PUBLIC INPUT—There was no public input offered.

REVIEW OF FOLLOW-UP REQUESTS—Confirmed requests made by the Board that require administrative follow-up for information to be provided to the Board at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT—The meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Recorded by Lynne Moritz, Executive Director of the President’s Office and Board Operations.

SIGNED  _____
 Rachel A. Johnson, Chair

ATTESTED  _____
 Andrew K. Robitshek, Secretary