

#### **Board of Trustees – Regular Board Meeting**

#### **MEETING MINUTES**

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Board Chair Frieda Takamura called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Notation of quorum was made. Vice Board Chair Takamura thanked and recognized Board Chair Entenman for her additional public service and leadership in the upcoming legislative session.

#### 2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Board Chair Entenman asked for a motion to approve the following minutes:

A. October 19, 2022 regular and special meeting

# *Trustee Unti moved to approve the minutes for the special and regular meetings held on October 19, 2022. Trustee Norouzi seconded and the motion carried.*

#### 3. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. General Information/Introductions There were no introductions at today's meeting. Frieda congratulated RTC on the recent career fair and its success, also noting RTC's November 15 Open House which was well attended with much coordination and engagement from faculty, staff and prospective students.
- B. Correspondence
   There was no correspondence.
- C. Public Comments from the Audience There were no public comments.
- D. Student Leadership Director Walter Lutsch provided an update from student leadership, reporting that they are recruiting for 2 additional executive board members to make 5. Holiday celebration events are being organized and a Dec. 5 a holiday buffet will be held at RTC with free tickets for students that stop by the ASG office. Monday, November 21, 11am is the next ASG leadership meeting.
- E. Renton Federation of Teachers RFT President, Donna Maher shared a Native American folk tale in honor of Native American Heritage Month in November, and in honor of community at RTC. Negotiations are continuing around returning to campus. Enrollment is a concern for RFT along with BCC's expanding Nursing Program, which is similar to RTC's. President Maher appreciated the recent meetings with the President and her leadership team and RFT looks forward to continuing these discussions.
- **F.** Written Communication Reports

Reports were included in the board packets.

#### 5. DISCUSSION REPORTS

A. Administration/Finance Budget Director, Christina Solis provided an update prior to the September 2022 board meeting and for the month ending September 2022. For month ending September, we are reporting for 25 percent of the year for revenues and expenses. Our revenue collection through September is about 20.1 percent, so we are about 4.9 percent lower than expected. Tuition is 15.1 percent or about 10 percent lower than expected. This is due to fewer tuition paying students. This represents a collection of \$951k or about \$600k less than expected. Fees to date are about 28.5 percent or about \$90k more than expected. Food Services continues to improve over last year with a collection of \$125k compared to \$70k last year. While total revenue is down about \$10.1M, it should be noted that this is because of the decrease in donations, \$5M from the Scott/Jewett gift, and CRRSA funding of \$5.16M. The CRRSA funding was our federal Cares Act funding, which we referred to as HEERF. Through September, our expenditures are running about 20.2 percent, or 4.8 percent lower than expected. Even with lower expenditures, it should be noted that salaries and benefits are about \$662k higher than last year at this time. Overall expenses for this September are

roughly \$2.3M more than they were in September 2021. The majority of this increase is the transfer of \$1.6M from the College to the Foundation to fund the Kevin McCarthy Bridge to College Success grant. Our total cash and reserves is about \$22.2M compared to \$23.5M last year. Again, the reason for the large decrease is the transfer of \$1.6M from the College to the Foundation to help fund the Kevin McCarthy Bridge to College Success grant.

**B.** President's Report

Dr. Yoshiko Harden provided a report highlighting activities subsequent to the October Board Meeting. Dr. Harden acknowledged the tragic deaths of college students this week and noted the connections between us all and especially among colleges in these tragedies. The Open House yesterday provided an energy boost to all and included attendees from 6 or 7 high schools and even a few middle schools. Faculty had tables and promoted their programs. The Lavender Network had a table. Dr. Harden thanked the trustees for attending. It was incredible to see the learnings and participate in the interactives. Dr. Harden also recognized National Apprenticeships Week and called attention to the emerging apprenticeship roles in the Health and IT fields which offer additional pathways and opportunities for students and especially technical colleges. Dr. Harden thanked RTC staff, faculty and administration for their commitment, investment, and engagement in RTC overall. She continues to see this every day at RTC and the recent Career Fair and Open House, with their extraordinary turn-out and interest, are great examples of this. And thank you to RFT leadership, President Maher and Vice President Geist, for their transparency and collaboration. Dr. Harden also thanked the Board of Trustees who continue their engagement in the college activities and the community. RTC is lucky to have these people serving the college. Dr. Harden attended the Renton Chamber of Commerce (RCC) meeting this month. The discussion focused on the chamber's legislative agenda. Dr. Harden reported that she has been nominated to serve on the Renton Chamber. This will be put to a vote at the December RCC meeting. In addition to the RCC, Foundation Executive Director Carrie Shaw coordinated a luncheon with other metro chamber leaders (South Sound, Kent, and Bellevue) who are interested in supporting and partnering with RTC. The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Annual Leadership Congress in New York City, October 25-29, 2022, attended by Dr. Harden and Trustees Entenman and Norouzi, focused on how CTCs improve the lives of entire families and how CTCs contribute to this change, making lives, communities and family lives better. There was a myriad of course offerings and events addressing single parent initiatives and how to transition people out of poverty. And tomorrow, November 17 and 18, Dr. Harden and Trustees Takamura and Unti will attend the Washington state Association of College Trustees (ACT) Fall Conference, which includes the convening of the Legislative Action Committee (LAC) which will provide techniques and information on legislative priorities that Presidents and Trustees can employ when they meet with legislators during the upcoming long legislative session in Olympia. Dr. Harden let everyone know that she will be looking for faculty, students and Trustees to join her in Olympia for legislative meetings in the New Year. Dr. Harden also noted the quick turnaround from the November 16 board meeting to the December 7 board meeting which will also include a review of RTC tenure candidates. She let Trustees know that portfolios/information for the 3 tenure candidates would be forwarded for their review on Monday, November 21. Dr. Harden will host, 'Cocoa with Dr. Yo', an informal discussion/ event with refreshments for faculty and staff to meet with her and share ideas about the future of the college on November 29th. A similar event for students will occur in the new year.

# 6. BOARD of TRUSTEES

**A.** Program Tour Report – Culinary program Trustee Unti was impressed with the skills and the progression of learning that the college offered in the culinary program which include hospitality, different meal preparations, the teaching kitchen, knife skills and more. Dean Medbury provided an overview of the program and how it is taught. Vice Board Chair Takamura thanked the faculty/staff for their participation and preparation for this tour and future ones. She appreciates the tours, noting that they help trustees understand the programs so they can then share the information with the community.

**B.** 2022 ACCT Leadership Congress Report Trustee Norouzi reported on the conference and remarked that the breakout sessions provided insight and opportunities for national networking and sparked ideas for partnerships, which was Trustee Norouzi's biggest take-away. There was much discussion around career pathways and how to layer a DEI lens into those pathways. Trustee Norouzi is focused on how to create robust partnerships embedded in community that lead to strong employment opportunities and funding for students. Vice Board Chair Takamura clarified that the ACCT is the national organization for college trustees whish hosted the NYC annual and that ACT is a statewide organization holding a fall conference November 17 and 18 in SeaTac which Trustees Takamura, Unti and Dr. Harden will attend.

## C. Liaisons Reports

- RTC Foundation Trustee Unti reported that the Foundation is focused strongly on community partnerships and a strong college partnership. Trustee Unti recognized Foundation Executive Director Carrie Shaw for her focus on developing Foundation board members to champion the college; there are many board members who are very passionate about the college and the foundation. Trustee Unti recognized the scholarships the Foundation provides; they make a difference in students' lives and send a powerful message of belonging and hope, which can translate to enrollments and retention. RTC is very lucky to have Executive director Carrie Shaw leading the Foundation.
- 2. RTC President's Advisory Council Trustee Norouzi reported on the November 7, 2022 meeting, comprised of community leaders who can offer feedback, development discussions and opportunities to the president and RTC. Trustee Norouzi is also soliciting input from RTC staff and faculty about who should serve on the council to help meet goals. Trustee Takamura also noted that broadening this group would be a great move as many small businesses could provide benefit and another perspective that has not yet been included in this council.
- D. Trustee Recruitment Dr. Harden reported that the Governor's Office has approved a trustee application that will fill Trustee Unti's seat. The final approval by the Governor should happen by January 2023. Dr. Harden is meeting with local labor leader, April Sims, next week to discuss potential recruits to fill the RTC board labor seat.

### 7. MEETINGS

**A.** The next regular board meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2022.

# 8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Trustee Unti moved to adjourn the Board of Trustees' regular meeting at 4:11pm., seconded by Trustee Norouzi; the motion carried.

DEBRA ENTENMAN, Board Chair Board of Trustees

**Renton Technical College** 

YOSHIKO HARDEN, President Board of Trustees