PRESENT: EXCUSED:

Mr. Buddy Boe Ms. Nadine Ramsey

Mr. Troy J. Broussard Ms. Judy Reese Morse

Ms. Anne Candies Mr. Christian Rhodes

Mr. James Carter Ms. Raquel Richmond

Ms. Catherine Morrell

Ms. Beth Scioneaux

Mr. Gary Solomon

Mr. Jefferson Turner

Ms. Sarah Usdin

EX-OFFICIO:

Mr. Kyle Wedberg

COUNSEL:

Mr. Mark Beebe, dialed-in

CALL TO ORDER

Board President, Mr. Troy J. Broussard, called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The roll was taken. There were nine of thirteen members present. Quorum was present.

STUDENT PRESENTATION

The student presentation was about three students’ off-campus summer experiences. Kyle Roth, Musical Theatre Level IV Academic Studio 12th grade student, attended Broadway Theatre Project in Tampa, Florida. Kyle shared that he benefited individually and artistically as a result of attending the summer intensive. He felt he learned to push himself through challenges.

Miley Lemoine, Visual Arts Level III Academic Studio 11th grade student, visited Montserrat Pre-College in Beverly, Massachusetts. Miley shared that it was beneficial to be with other artists from different yet similar backgrounds. Miley expressed that she became more focused and responsible in her art, and came away with a better grasp of what she wanted to do. Miley received a scholarship to attend the summer program after President Kurt Steinberg of Montserrat College visited NOCCA’s campus.

Simone Haley, Dance Level IV Academic Studio 12th grade student, attended Dance Theatre of Harlem’s Ballet Intensive. Through this program, Simone expressed that she made a commitment to ballet and learned of the competitive nature of the field. She felt she became more aware of how she carries herself in different spaces and the determination she feels and wants to further develop. Simone received a merit scholarship directly from Dance Theatre of Harlem to attend the summer intensive.

The board asked questions and engaged with the students. Mr. Boe stated, “Y’all are why we show up. Seeing you look at each other to show support as you’re presenting is incredible.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Broussard welcomed public comment regarding the Board Meeting minutes of June 11, 2019. There was none. Mr. Buddy Boe moved to approve the minutes of the NOCCA Board Meeting of June 11, 2019. Ms. Sarah Usdin seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Mr. Broussard stated it was time to elect officers. Ms. Anne Candies made a motion to nominate Mr. Broussard for President of the NOCCA Board of Directors and Mr. Boe for Vice President of the NOCCA Board of Directors. Ms. Usdin seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

STUDENT SERVICES/ACADEMIC STUDIO UPDATE

Mr. Kyle Wedberg explained a technical amendment desired on the previously approved 2019-20 NOCCA Calendar. The change would make May 18, 2020 a student holiday for Faculty & Staff In-Service and so that the campus could focus on Celebration and Award Ceremony preparation. Mr. Boe moved to accept the change of May 18, 2020 to a Faculty & Staff In-Service and Student Holiday. Ms. Candies seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Blake Coheley, Director of Admissions, explained two proposed changes to the Lottery procedure for 9th Grade Entry. A change to the Academic Studio Enrollment Lottery Process for 9th Grade Entry, on page 3, would add the exception “Siblings of a current student placed as part of the 11th/12th Grade Entry selection process”. Another addition would reserve NOCCA’s right to add students of a faculty or staff member who is relocating to work at NOCCA, and students who within the current or previous school year attended an Arts Schools Network school and have transferred to the New Orleans area. Mr. Wedberg stated that he wants to be able reciprocate what other schools did for NOCCA after Katrina.

Mr. Coheley outlined proposed changes to the Academic Studio Enrollment Lottery Process for 11th/12th Grade Entry. In addition to cleaning up language, a section regarding exceptions was added outlining steps in prioritizing students placed in the lottery. Similar to the recommended change for the 9th Grade Lottery document, verbiage regarding NOCCA’s right to add students of staff and faculty who move into the area and students in the Arts Schools Network who have a moved into the area was recommended.

Ms. Usdin made a motion to amend the agenda to make Item VI b., Lottery Revision, an action item. Mr. Boe seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued regarding potential effects of the NOCCA Lottery on the EnrollNOLA program. Ms. Usdin made a motion to approve the revisions of both the Academic Studio Enrollment Lottery Process for 9th Grade Entry and the Academic Studio Enrollment Lottery Process for 11th/12th Grade Entry pending notification of the EnrollNOLA program. Ms. Catherine Morrell posited that with the two separate systems, one student could actually hold two spots open for themselves, which complicates the placement process for the region. Mr. Boe stated that he agrees that a conversation with EnrollNOLA could be beneficial, but that he does not want NOCCA’s process to be ending in EnrollNOLA’s review, but to remain pure and stand on its own. Ms. Usdin requested that NOCCA have a conversation with EnrollNOLA and Mr. Coheley agreed to do that. With respect for Ms. Usdin’s previous motion, Mr. Boe made a substitute motion to approve the revisions of both the Academic Studio Enrollment Lottery Process for 9th Grade Entry and the Academic Studio Enrollment Lottery Process for 11th/12th Grade Entry as presented by staff. Ms. Candies seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Mr. Boe asked for the addition of an agenda item on the next meeting to receive an update on the conversation with EnrollNOLA.

FINANCE

Ms. Lotte Delaney, NOCCA CFO, shared information regarding the budget. Ms. Delaney stated that the proposed budget has increased to $8.4 million, which is a $200,000 increase. Two changes this year are teacher pay raises and the addition of two new positions: Special Education and Protocol. Ms. Delaney expressed the desire to continue to chip away at raises and pay equity.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. Wedberg presented the slate of Academic Studio teachers to be certified by the board. A provisional certificate was requested for one Academic Studio teacher who was working to complete their Master’s degree. Mr. Boe made a motion to certify the Academic Studio teachers as presented. Mr. Gary Solomon seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Three new positions on campus were described. Mr. Kevin Burke will be the new Special Education Coordinator. Mr. Al Carter will serve as the new Protocol Coordinator. Mr. Silas Cooper is the new Director of the Arts. Mr. Cooper will continue in some his teaching responsibilities as well.

THE NOCCA INSTITUTE REPORT

Ms. Sally Perry, Executive Director of The NOCCA Institute (TNI), shared a report that summarizes the last year. Ms. Perry explained that the TNI staff’s immediate response to the Racial Equity Institute’s training was to change the name of the Financial Aid Program to the Student Success Program.

Ms. Perry stated that 64% (previous highest level was 48%) of the Arts and Academic Studio graduating class received support from TNI over their four years of time at NOCCA. Culinary Arts, Dance, and Jazz students seem to have the greatest need. The average family income of students requesting assistance was $32,000. Over $200,000,000 has been awarded since 2005 in scholarships and aid. Ten years ago, TNI was giving $26,000 a year in Financial Aid. Currently, TNI gives $143,000 a year. TNI has funded 110 artists-in-residence. The Capitol Campaign remains the greatest challenge.

Recently, TNI received a grant to hire a therapist full time for the students.

TNI is accepting applications for a new position of Alumni Coordinator.

NOCCA PRESIDENT/CEO REPORT

Mr. Wedberg described the training that the entire staff completed with the Racial Equity Institute and the lengthy debrief following. Mr. Jefferson Turner, board member and Musical Theatre Department Chair, described the training as informative and celebratory. He stated he wouldn’t mind doing it every year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. James Carter made a motion to move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing performance and/or compensation of the President/CEO, Mr. Wedberg. Ms. Usdin seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. The Executive Session started at 6:16 p.m.

Mr. Carter made a motion to return from Executive Session. Ms. Usdin seconded the motion. All were in favor. Executive Session ended at 6:42 p.m.

Mr. Boe motioned to approve the Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2019. Ms. Morrell seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Boe motioned to amend the agenda to include the item: Compensation adjustment for the President/CEO at Personnel Committee direction. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Boe moved to adjust the President/CEO’s compensation equal to the raise received by the faculty of NOCCA and that the Personnel Committee provides a formal structure and recommendation for a full evaluation of the President/CEO’s salary and future contract negotiations at a future regular meeting of NOCCA Board of Directors Meeting. Ms. Usdin seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REMARKS/OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Broussard asked for public comment. There was none.

Mr. Boe made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by: Reviewed by: Attest:

Leigh Traylor Kyle Wedberg Troy J. Broussard

Recording Secretary Secretary to the Board President of the Board

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_