

NOCCA
Board of Directors Meeting
May 1, 2024

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Ms. Anne Candies
Mr. Wood Delahoussaye
Ms. Janice R. Manuel
Dr. Joe Ricks
Ms. Beth Scioneaux
Mr. Gary Solomon
Mr. Mark-Anthony Thomas
Mr. Stephen Weber
Ms. Robin Williams
Mr. Carlos Zervigon

EXCUSED:

Ms. Rhenea Carter
Dr. Rachel T. Davis-Haley

EX-OFFICIO:

Mr. Silas Cooper

CALL TO ORDER

Board President, Mr. Gary Solomon, called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The roll was taken. There were nine members present and one more arrived late for a total of ten members present. A quorum was present.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

The Board was invited to attend the Visual Arts Student Exhibition as they left the Board meeting tonight.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Stephen Weber moved to approve the NOCCA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2024. Ms. Anne Candies seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

STUDENT SERVICES

Mr. Blake Coheley, Director of Admissions and Student Services, described various campus events, including DNA Awards, Senior Saturday, and Graduation and Celebration Ceremonies. He also shared about the trip to see Shreveport's ArtBreak, a well-organized, well-attended arts event. NOCCA is interested in creating an event similar to this in New Orleans.

ARTS AND ACADEMICS

Dr. Kit Nelson, Director of Academic Studio, reported on admissions to Academic Studio. There was no need for a lottery this year which resulted in all eligible students either being placed or becoming 1st on a

waitlist. Dr. Nelson is reviewing over 30 applications of students wishing to onboard into the Academic Studio during the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade.

Suggested updates to the 2024-25 Student and Parent Handbook were discussed. Informational listening sessions were held with Academic Studio faculty, Arts faculty and the Student Council in the development of the current suggested updates, identified by red type. The handbook has also been reviewed by NOCCA lawyers. An in-depth conversation including Board feedback ensued and included the following in this order:

- Page 31-NOCCA Expulsion Process updates
- Page 3-Attendance Policy in need of further work to respond to excessive absence
- Page 27-Protocol
- Page 6-NOCCA's Expectations of All Students
- Page 7-Definition of "Daily Participation" is needed. The Department Contract is a more specific document describing what participation looks like in each department. Reference to that document needs to be mentioned here to clarify. Perhaps "per Department Contract".
- Page 18-Medication Policy. May want to delete "at the beginning of the school year" so it's clear that it's needed at the time it was prescribed whenever that may be.
- Page 21-22-Attendance. Questions about documentation of efforts to contact students and how do we define/document "reasonable efforts". Conversation about tolerance for absences and continued enrollment and procedures for making up time. Request for students not to be allowed to attend arts if missed academics. Discussion about working with families to determine reason for absences.
- Page 25- Students should be picked up within 30 minutes, grammatical error.
- Page 27-Protocol. Large discussion about pros and cons of involvement of law enforcement in searches. One Board member stated preference of searches being conducted by administrator and witness rather than involving police right away. Add "and witness". Concerns noted about chain of custody. Law enforcement involved if illegal substances are identified. Discussion about drugs on campus and response. Mr. Mark Beebe stated that Louisiana law outlines zero tolerance for students bringing illegal drugs on campus.

Mr. Solomon requested that an updated red-line copy is prepared per this discussion and is sent back out to the Board for any further comments. He also requested the Board to send additional comments to NOCCA next week. The goal is to be able to approve the handbook at the next Board meeting in June.

FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Ms. Anna Schwab, Deputy CFO, introduced the Differentiated Compensation Distribution Plan. Dr. Joe Ricks moved to approve the distribution plan. Mr. Carlos Zervigon seconded the motion. Ms. Beth Scioneaux recused herself from the vote. Mr. Solomon left and did not vote. All others were in favor. Motion passed.

NOCCA FOUNDATION

Ms. Elizabeth McMillan, NOCCA Foundation Director of Development, outlined the Foundations recent and upcoming events as well as sharing the year-to-date support the Foundation has been able to provide.

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

Ms. Candies, asked for a motion regarding the negotiation of a contract with Adams and Reese. Mr. Zervigon motioned to authorize Mr. Solomon to negotiate a contract between NOCCA and Adams and Reese for legal services. Dr. Ricks seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motioned passed.

Ms. Candies asked the Board to complete the President/CEO Evaluation by May 17 and the Tier 2.1 Financial Disclosure Form by May 15.

PRESIDENT/CEO

Mr. Silas Cooper thanked the Board for the discussion regarding the handbook.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Candies asked for public comment. There was none.

REMARKS/OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Candies asked for any closing remarks or other business. None was offered.

ADJOURN

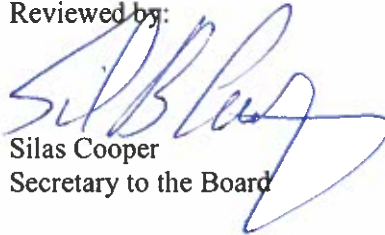
Dr. Ricks made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wood Delahoussaye seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Submitted by:



Leigh Traylor
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by:



Silas Cooper
Secretary to the Board

Attest:



Gary Solomon
President of the Board

Date Approved: 06/20/2024






2024.05.01 Board Minutes for sig

Final Audit Report

2024-06-21

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