

Minutes of the VSCS Board of Trustees Executive Committee meeting held Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom - APPROVED

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees Executive Committee met on Thursday, December 17, 2020 via Zoom.

Committee members present: Lynn Dickinson (Chair), Megan Cluver (Vice Chair), Karen Luneau, David Silverman

Other Trustees Present: Jim Masland, Mary Moran, Mike Pieciak, Shawn Tester (4:35 p.m.)

Presidents: Elaine Collins, Joyce Judy, Pat Moulton

Chancellor's Office staff: Donny Bazluke, Network/Security Analyst
Kevin Conroy, Chief Information Officer
Renee Hunt, Controller
Katherine Levasseur, Director of External & Governmental Relations
Patty Turley, General Counsel
Jen Porrier, Administrative Director
Sharron Scott, Chief Financial & Operating Officer
Meg Walz, Director, Project Management
Sophie Zdatny, Chancellor
Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic Officer

From the Colleges: Sarah Chambers, Coordinator of Instructional Technology, Castleton University
Karen Madden, Director of Academic Support Services, Northern Vermont University
Beth Walsh, President, VSCUP, Northern Vermont University

1. Chair Dickinson called the meeting to order at 3:39 p.m.
2. Approval of Minutes

Trustee Cluver moved and Trustee Silverman seconded the motion to approve the minutes of November 5, 2020. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Review and discuss Chancellor's initial recommendations for a potential implementation plan and timelines

Chancellor Zdatny presented the proposed plan for analyzing the recommendations of the Select Committee. Using the Select Committee's recommendations as a guide, the VSCS will finalize a recommendation for a transformed organization, governance, and operational model that is

fiscally sustainable and fulfills its mission of delivering an affordable, accessible, high quality, student-centered, workforce-relevant education for Vermonters in measured stages to be completed within five years. Chancellor Zdatny defined key questions to be addressed, outlined a workflow timeline and described focused planning questions for the next stage. The Chancellor identified opportunities for public comment prior to the Board taking action.

Trustee Luneau moved and Trustee Silverman seconded the motion to approve the Chancellor's initial recommendations for implementation plan and timeline. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Review and discuss proposed amendments to Board Bylaws and Trustee Handbook

General Counsel Patty Turley informed the Committee that she has reviewed and updated the Board's Bylaws and Trustee Handbook consistent with NECHE's revised standards for accreditation, which go into effect on January 1, 2021. The Committee reviewed and discussed the proposed changes.

Trustee Silverman moved and Trustee Luneau seconded the motion to recommend to the Board the approval of the changes to the Board Bylaws and Trustee Handbook. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Discuss potential items for agendas of January 8th meetings of EPSL and LRPC

Chief Academic Officer Yasmine Ziesler briefed the committee on the currently posted RFP for Academic Program Analysis and the discussions that will occur surrounding that work. Additionally, EPSL will be looking at an overall timeline for its work over the coming year and identifying top priorities, one of which will be an audit of academic policies.

Chancellor Zdatny advised that a key topic for the upcoming LRPC meeting will be the Select Committee's Initial Report and recommendations, as well as reviewing the initial analysis on the Committee's recommendation of a common accreditation for the three residential college.

6. Other Business

Chair Dickinson shared that elections for members of the Nominating Committee will be held at the January Board meeting.

7. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Executive Session.

At 4:47 pm Trustee Silverman moved that the VSCS Executive Committee enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(B) to discuss labor relations agreements with employees and 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(F) for the purpose of receiving confidential attorney client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services. The

motion stated that because premature general public knowledge of these discussions would place the VSCS at a substantial disadvantage, it was appropriate for the Committee to enter executive session. Along with the members of the Board present at the meeting, the Board invited the Chancellor and the VSCS General Counsel to attend. Trustee Cluver seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Committee exited executive session at 5:06 p.m. and took no action.

Chair Dickinson adjourned the meeting at 5:07 p.m.