

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 4
SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2011
3:30 p.m. – Multipurpose Room
2405 E. College Way
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. John Stephens, Chair
Ms. Debra Lisser
Mr. Don Piercy
Ms. Margaret Rojas
Dr. Gary Tollefson, President & Executive Secretary to the Board

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM:

The Chair recognized that a quorum of Board members were present.

III. STUDY SESSION:

1. Core Themes and Objectives:

Dr. Tollefson reported that the College has been working toward a completed set of Core Themes and Core Theme Objectives that would replace the existing strategic plan. At the August 2010 Board planning session, Trustees assisted in developing the core themes and objectives. Following that meeting the Standard One Committee drafted a version for comment during fall quarter. The college community had December and January to respond to the draft document, and the response was overwhelmingly positive.

Dr. Tollefson stated that this study session was being held for the Board to review the proposed Core Themes and Objectives and once approved, adopt and integrate them into the Board's End's Policies.

Dr. Maureen Pettitt led a review of the proposed Core Themes and Objectives. Discussion followed the presentation. Following the discussion the Board requested the following changes to the proposed document:

- Under Core Theme II: Building and Supporting Healthy Communities have Objective #2 read as: “Partnerships with the community that contribute to cultural and economic development.”
- Have Core Theme III read as Creating and supporting Educational Alignment, Achievement, and Transitions
- Under Core Theme III have Objective #3 read as: “Student success in transitioning to four-year programs/institutions and/or to the workforce.
- Under Core Theme III have Indicator #3 read as “Student success in transitioning to four-year programs/institutions and/or to the workforce.”

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and no action taken, this meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

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BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. John Stephens, Chair

Ms. Debra Lisser

Mr. Don Piercy

Ms. Margaret Rojas

Dr. Gary Tollefson, President & Executive Secretary to the Board

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF A QUORUM:

The Chair recognized that a quorum of Board members were present.

III. FLAG SALUTE

IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Arden Ainley reported that no community guests were present.

Dr. Diane Johnson reported that the SVC choirs have once again been invited to perform in Carnegie Hall. The performance will take place on May 25th. The choirs are currently raising funds for travel and other costs related to the performance: Fundraising events include:

- March 26, "Springtime in New York" Auction;
- Musical production, "25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" opens February 25 and runs for two weekends;
- March 10, "Around the World in 80 Minutes" SVC Choir and Jazz Band.

Three of the student actors performed a brief scene from the "25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" musical.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 11, 2011

It was moved by Margaret Rojas and seconded by Don Piercy to approve the January 11, 2011 meeting minutes as presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Budget Update

Mary Alice Grobins, Vice President of Administrative Services, presented a budget briefing that included information on the following:

- State funds reductions since 2008
- Update on FY 2011 Supplemental Budget
- SVC's supplemental budget plan
- SBCTC "allocation" of Governor's FY 2011-2013 Biennial Budget Proposal
- Legislative thinking on cuts to higher education
- SVC's biennial budget planning
- Current planning for use of college reserves

Dr. Tollefson reported that on February 17 he spent the day in Olympia talking with legislators who represent our district (10th, 39th, and 40th) as well as others in committees that will consider budgets for higher education. During those conversations, it became clear that there is general consensus about the size of the budget reductions for the coming biennium and that the cuts will exceed those proposed by the Governor.

2. Waiver Changes

Mary Alice reported that as part of the budget work done in order to deal with significant expected operating budget reductions in the 2011-2013 biennium, staff has conducted a review of all "optional" waivers that are currently granted to Skagit Valley College students. The review has led to the recommendation that in order to increase college revenues to offset the budget cuts, three waivers should be suspended subject to approval by the Board of Trustees.

High School Completion Waiver: RCW 28B.15.520(1)(a)

This waiver statute permits colleges to waive all or a portion of tuition and fees for students at least 19-years-old who seek to obtain a high school diploma. Last year, SVC provided waivers totaling \$37,000. The high school completion program will still be available but students would pay for the credits. In addition,

new legislation provides that students over 21 years of age may receive a high school diploma at no cost if the student has earned an associate's degree.

Over 18 Credits Waiver for Vocational Students: RCW 28B.15.100(3)

This waiver allows colleges to waive all or a portion of the additional operating fee charged to students registered for more than 18 credit hours. SVC charges \$12.60 per credit hour over 18, compared to the regular per credit cost of \$51. Last year SVC provided waivers totaling \$52,000.

Senior Citizen Audit: RCW 28B.15.540

Colleges may waive tuition for students sixty years or older. The students pay \$5 per quarter and are enrolled on a space available basis for no more than two classes per quarter. Last year SVC provided \$49,000 in waivers.

Discussion followed the presentation. Mary Alice stated that these waiver changes will be brought before the Board for action at the March Board meeting.

VII. ACTION ITEM:

1. Recommendation of Resolution 11-01, Authorizing Purchase of 1911 N. LaVenture Road

Mary Alice reported that at the December, 2010, Board meeting the Trustees were informed about the property at 1911 N. LaVenture Road, Mount Vernon. At that time SVC staff communicated the desire to purchase the property and provided photographs and information regarding plans to build a parking lot in this location. After the presentation the Board expressed their desire to move forward with this proposal.

Contact has been made with the property owner and SVC's offer of \$240,000 has been accepted: This offer is contingent on:

- A real estate appraisal, completed by an MAI designated appraiser;
- An environmental site assessment and audit;
- A preliminary title report;
- Approval by the SVC Board of Trustees;
- Approval by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

College staff has submitted a request to the City of Mount Vernon to rezone the front parcel on this property from its current R-3 to a P (Public) zoning.

Mary Alice stated that the college had hoped to partner with the Northwest Career & Technical Academy (NCTA) on the purchase of the land for parking for their students and events. However, NCTA has redirected their priorities and at

this time are no longer a partner. The property is attractive and has a light controlled crosswalk, installed by the fire department for their use but it can also be used by pedestrians.

Dave Scott, Director of Facilities & Operations, reviewed architect's renderings on the look of the lot with parking spaces—the total amount of spaces is proposed at 55-60. The property consists of two lots and they are adjacent to the Hamburg house property that we own and our Child and Family Learning Center property.

Mary Alice reported that the current owners of the property have given us approval to request rezoning for Public with the City of Mount Vernon. The City has said that the request looks reasonable and has asked their staff to come back with a recommendation. Dave has talked to the head planner and she expressed no concerns about rezoning the property.

Discussion followed.

It was moved by Margaret Rojas and seconded by Debra Lisser to approve Resolution 11-01, Authorizing Purchase of 1911 N. LaVenture Road (see attachment) amended to read as follows:

“Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 4, authorizes the use of up to \$255,000 to purchase this property and to pay for costs associated with said purchase; contingent upon an environmental impact report and the City of Mount Vernon’s approval of the rezoning of the property to Public.”

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Recommendation of Core Themes and Core Theme Objectives

It was moved by Don Piercy and seconded by Margaret Rojas to approve the Core Themes and Core Theme Objectives as amended during the study session earlier in the afternoon.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

VIII. COLLEGE REPORTS

1. ASSVC

Milos Pesic ASSVC Vice President for Mount Vernon Campus reported:

- Pleased to hear of the land purchase as it will help resolve parking issues;
- Students at the San Juan Center are experiencing some problems with receiving textbooks after the quarter begins;
- The district Services and Activities Fee Committee has voted to increase fees to the maximum of 10% for next year. The decision to raise the fee was based on their commitment to provide a better educational experience. The committee also decided that they will pay 50% of the salary of a Student Life position that has been paid out of the general fund in the past;
- Students participated in the recent rally in Olympia;
- Many students helped with and attended the Greg Mortenson presentation;
- A childcare providers fair was recently held on the Mount Vernon Campus
- Program Board sponsored duck and scavenger hunts;
- Recyclemania is currently underway;
- Collections for pet food, canned food, and diapers are in progress;
- Rep. Rick Larsen met with student leadership and held a forum for all students on the Mount Vernon Campus on January 31;
- This is the final week of GlobalFest.

2. SVCFT

No report.

3. WPEA

No report.

4. Administrative Services

Mary Alice reported that, as the Trustees are aware, the Marine Tech Program has moved into the new Marine Technology Center in Anacortes. The old facility is a 13,000 square foot building located on a 2.27 acre parcel. The college would like to talk to the Board about selling this property late spring or early summer. An appraisal was done in March 2007 and came in near one million dollars; however, since four years have elapsed we will order another appraisal. Public entities will have first priority at buying the property. If there is no interest by a public entity then it will go out to the general public. General Administration (GA) takes care of the disposal of the property but the college retains the proceeds of the sale.

Mary Alice distributed and reviewed information on the status of the strategic investment actions the Board approved in November 2010. Some items have been held back due to the downturn in the budget situation.

Mary Alice distributed and reviewed the budget report for month ending January 31, 2011.

5. President

Dr. Tollefson highlighted the following items in his report:

- Legislative reception hosted with Bellingham Technical College and Whatcom Community College went very well. He would appreciate feedback about the location from those that attended as SVC will be hosting the event next year;
- The Greg Mortenson event was fabulous, even better than we had hoped. He acknowledged the Foundation staff for their work coordinating the event;
- The college was recently awarded the Community Improvement Award by the City of Mount Vernon for Angst Hall and its Platinum LEED certification;
- Met with all legislators for our district (10th, 39th, and 40th) except for Senator Haugen. He had extended discussions with many of the legislators and it became evident that there is emerging consensus about the size of the budget reductions for the 2011-2013 biennium.

6. Board of Trustees/TACTC

Debra Lisser stated that TACTC's Governance Institute for Student Success (GISS) for trustees will be held in June with most expenses paid for by the Gates Foundation. The seminar will provide information on ways to achieve increases in student attainment and will also discuss Board goals. She hopes the entire Board will be able to attend as she believes it will provide beneficial information. The GISS has been previously conducted in Ohio; Washington will be the second state to receive the GISS information before it goes national.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT:

No requests were submitted.

X. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, March 22, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Mount Vernon Campus Board Room – Multipurpose Room.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Chair stated that the Board would convene into Executive Session to review the performance of public employees. He anticipated that the discussion would take approximately 30 minutes and asked Mick Donahue to stay for Executive Session.

**CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:05 P.M.
RECONVENED INTO OPEN SESSION AT 7:10 P.M.**

Upon reconvening into open session, the Board discussed changing the date of their March regular meeting to Tuesday, March 15.

It was moved by Don Piercy and seconded by Margaret Rojas, to change the date of the March 2011 regular Board of Trustees meeting from March 22 to March 15, 2011.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

John Stephens, Chair

Gary Tollefson, President
Executive Secretary to the Board

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 4
Resolution No. II-01

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 4 (SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE)
AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 1911 N. LAVENTURE ROAD

WHEREAS, with the combination of increased enrollment and the need to meet the growing educational needs of the community, and

WHEREAS, the owner of the two parcels that make up 1911 N. LaVenture Road has agreed to sell said property to Skagit Valley College for the sum of \$240,000, and

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon has under consideration a college request for rezoning to allow a parking lot to be built at this and the college's abutting currently owned location, and

WHEREAS, the proposed action will allow the college to better serve its student population and at the same time expand the college's physical size.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 4, authorizes the use of up to \$255,000 to purchase this property and to pay for costs associated with said purchase. *Contingent upon an environmental impact report and the City of Mount Vernon's approval of the rezoning of the property to Public.*

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 4
SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE

ATTEST:


Gary Tollefson, Secretary
Board of Trustees


John Stephens, Chair
Board of Trustees

Dated this 22nd day February, 2011

Please refer to the March 15, 2011 SVC Board of Trustees' meeting minutes for a change to this resolution.