

SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Pre-Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees and Area Legislators
Monday, December 11, 2017 – 4:30 p.m.
Private Dining Room
West Burlington Campus

1.1 CALL TO ORDER:

Board Chair Prellwitz called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Trustees Janet Fife-LaFrenz, Jeff Heland, Lanny Hillyard, Moudy Nabulsi, and Chris Prellwitz were present. Also present were President Dr. Michael Ash, Secretary Sherry Zeller, Treasurer Kevin Carr, and faculty/staff members Dr. Carole Richardson, Joan Williams, Chuck Chrisman, Becky Rump, Don Weiss, Professor Dr. Deborah Wright, Beth Ash, and Tammy Hobbs. IACCT Executive Director M.J. Dolan, Lobbyist Tom Cope, and the following SCC students were also present: Megan Larkins, Shelby Smith, Meghan Riley, Natalia Almeida, Peggy Wunderlich, Paige Kammerer, Clay Schwartz, Skylar Troutman, Camila Almeida, and Anna Gaul. Representatives Dennis Cohoon and Jerry Kearns were present; Senator Tom Green was also present.

1.2 ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA:

Trustee Hillyard moved to adopt the agenda. Trustee Nabulsi seconded. Motion carried.

Chair Prellwitz welcomed the legislators, staff, and students. She expressed appreciation to the legislators for their continued support of community colleges.

Dinner was served.

2.1 COMMENTS - PRESIDENT DR. MICHAEL ASH

At President Ash's request, the students introduced themselves and reported on their educational aspirations.

President Ash introduced the members of the Board of Trustees and the college staff. Trustees Fife-LaFrenz and Hillyard expressed appreciation to the legislators for attending this event and for their support of community colleges.

IACCT Executive Director M. J. Dolan expressed appreciation to the legislators for their support of community colleges and gave some statistics regarding the number of individuals in our state whose lives are positively impacted by community colleges. She also expressed appreciation about the recent new construction and remodeling on campus.

Professor Dr. Deborah Wright gave remarks on behalf of the Higher Education Association regarding pertinent information from the Iowa Department of Education's Report on Community Colleges.

Lobbyist Tom Cope expressed appreciation to the legislators for listening to the concerns of the community colleges during the legislative session.

2.2 COMMENTS - AREA LEGISLATORS:

Representative Dennis Cohoon reported that while a majority of the state's budget is spent on education, numerous other issues will be of focus during the 2018 legislative session and will compete for funding: health care, privatization of Medicaid, water quality, changes in IPERS for partial or total privatization. He noted that community colleges have been short-changed over the years.

Representative Jerry Kearns reported that community colleges serve a very important role in providing Iowa's skilled workforce. He noted that the issue of school vouchers will take away funding from public education if approved.

Senator Greene stressed the importance of community colleges and noted that he is a graduate of Burlington Junior College. He stated that although numerous issues requiring state funding come from various factions, education is of utmost importance.

3.0 ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned by Board consensus at 5:53 p.m.

These minutes have been approved by the Board of Trustees and this is certified to be a true copy.



Sherry Zeller
Board Secretary