

Members Present	Other Interested Parties	Members Absent
William Arrowood	Dr. John Boyd, President	
Dr. Gwen Harris	Gerald Hyde, Vice President of Administration	
R.L. Hoilman	Rhia Crawford, Vice President of Instructional Services & Student Development	
Julia Norris	Rita Earley, Associate Vice President of Continuing Education and Workforce Development	
Kenny Poteat	Dora Smith, Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees	
Sam Ray	Kristabell Kennedy, Assistant to the Foundation	
Johnny Riddle	Laura Laughridge, Executive Director, MCC Foundation	
Corey Robinson, SGA	Beth Morris, Director of Marketing	
Edwina Sluder, Vice Chair	Liz Silvers, Director, Institutional Effectiveness / SACS Accreditation Liaison	
Jack Wiseman	Brandy Turner, Early College Liaison	
Ronnie Kates, Chairman	Michael Ayers, Personnel Director	
Kevin Street		

Call to Order

Chairman Kates called the Mayland Community College Board of Trustees to order at 12:24 p.m. Trustee Sluder offered the invocation.

Ethics Reminder

Chairman Kates provided the ethics reminder. No conflicts of interest were noted.

Agenda

Trustee Poteat made a motion approve the March 10, 2014 agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ray. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

The January 13, 2014 meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Trustee Street, seconded by Trustee Ray and by consensus of the Board.

Celebrating Success

- The Board welcomed Dora Smith as the new Executive Assistant, Office of the President.
- Dr. Boyd commented on another successful GED Graduation. Associate Vice President of Continuing Education and Workforce Development Rita Early stated that there were 145 graduates from April to December, 62 of them walked.
- Dr. Boyd provided an update on the Dark Skies project:
 - The Dark Skies Certification appeared in the Yancey paper. Mayland Community College's Blue Ridge Observatory and Star Park was recently recognized as a Dark Sky Park by the International Dark-Sky Association. The Star Park is located just above the EnergyXchange as part of Mayland Community College's Estatoe Regional Center for Science and Crafts. The Star Park is one of only 29 such places world-wide and the first in the southeastern United States to receive this designation. It is also the first Dark Sky site to be operated under the auspices of an institution of higher learning, and it is the first whose exterior lighting consists entirely of fully-shielded, low-color-temperature LED fixtures. Funding from the Samuel L. Phillips Family Foundation is supporting the construction of a 34" telescope that will be housed at the Blue Ridge Observatory.
 - Jon Wilmescher was the driving force on behind this project and contributed to its success. Prior to MCC's application, there were only 13 Certified Dark Sky locations in the world and MCC's will be the only one in the south (only 3 east of the Mississippi) The estimated cost of the project is \$250,000.
- Director of Institutional Effectiveness / SACS Accreditation Liaison Liz Silvers shared that the SACS Self Study was successfully completed and submitted before the deadline (see more below).
- Dr. Boyd announced the resignation of Brandy Turner. Turner has been the Early College Liaison for the last 10 years and will be moving to Florida with her husband. The Board wished her well and thanked her for her service.

Chairman's Report

- Chairman Kates reminded the Board about the importance of filing SEI Statements.
- The 2014 NCACCT Law/Legislative Seminar is coming up:
 - April 9-11, 2014
 - Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley Hotel
 - Vice Chair Sluder, Trustees Norris and Wiseman, and Dr. Boyd will attend

Committee Reports

- **Personnel Committee**
 - The Personnel Committee had no action or discussion items and therefore did not meet.

• Academic Committee

- Vice President Rhia Crawford presented the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement for North Carolina: The original articulation agreement was established in 1997 and for 20 years it has worked well, however due to changes in program requirements the agreement was no longer in effect.
 - A new articulation agreement will be effective in the fall of 2014. All transfer courses will be accepted and all 16 universities have signed off on it.
- Liz Silvers provided the SACS update:
 - MCC mailed the Compliance Certification on February 28th, a full 17 days earlier than the March 17, 2014 deadline.
 - The offsite committee will meet in May to see if MCC met requirements.
 - The QEP will be unveiled at the Spring Fling in April; work will continue until the due date in late July.
 - The onsite team will be at MCC from September 15th-18th, 2014.

• Finance Committee

- The Finance Committee met this morning to approve the county budget requests of \$313,808 per county with a total of \$941,424 funding from the three counties.
- ***A motion to approve the 2014-15 county budget requests was made by Trustee R.L. Hoilman and seconded by Trustee Gwen Harris.***

• Building and Grounds Committee

- Dr. Boyd distributed information about the Facilities master plan (multi-purpose building), which included a listing of the College's different needs and timelines for how decisions will be made. Funding for these projects will primarily be from grants and private donations.
- The development of the Observatory is the next major priority for the Foundation.

Consent Agenda

- **No action items.**

President's Report

- The Board Retreat is scheduled for April 14, 2014 at Blue Ridge Regional Hospital.
- Associate Vice President Rita Early presented the 2012 Continuing Education Accountability/Credibility Plan and stated that all the criteria of the report was and/or exceeded. A motion to approve the Accountability/Credibility Plan was made by Trustee Riddle, seconded by Trustee Sluder and unanimously approved by the Board.

- The annual presentation of Mayland Community College's Affirmative Action report was given by the Director of Personnel Services, Michael Ayers. The report is attached to these minutes.
- Dr. Boyd gave an update on the Anspach Campaign and the Bill Baker Appeal.
- Dream Day is scheduled for April 3, and Founders Day for June 19.
- Dr. Boyd announced Senator Ralph Hise's intent to seek reelection to the public office of North Carolina's 46th District Senate seat.
- The Marketing Committee is working on a campaign in the Avery, Mitchell, and Yancey newspapers that will highlight an MCC program, a student, and a staff member each week.
- The Foundation Board Retreat is scheduled for March 11, 2014 at the Linville Falls Winery.
- Update on the Mayland Berkshire Project: This pilot pig farming program for high school students in Mitchell, Avery and Yancey counties will provide six students from farm families with a sow, equipment, fencing and technical assistant. Each sow should have a litter of six to seven piglets. At the conclusion of the year, one grown pig will be given to a subsequent student participant, one will be processed for distribution through MANNA food bank, one will be sold to support the program and the remaining pigs will be sold or consumed by the farm family. Over three years, the program has the potential to impact 40-50 farm families and to provide up to 14,000 pounds of donated pork to local food pantries. Trustee Wiseman said this program will be "planting a valuable seed locally."

SGA

- Corey Robinson, SGA President, gave an update on SGA activities:
 - "Helping Hearts" project will end March 14, 2014. SGA will continue to collect items for Mitchell County Safeplace and the Family Violence Coalition of Yancey County until this time.
 - The SGA will hold a meeting on March 11, 2014, in Room 150, at 1:00 pm.
 - The SGA will be hosting a Scavenger Hunt beginning March 17, 2014.
 - The event for May is a possible trip to Turtle Island in Watauga County.
 - SGA's 2014 Spring Fling will be held Tuesday, April 15 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Courtyard and from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm in the Student Commons.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned by motion of Trustee Ray, seconded by Trustee Riddle and on consensus by the Board at 1:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dora Smith, Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees.

DVS