



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**  
**Montgomery College, Rockville, Maryland**  
**March 18, 2019**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair of the Board of Trustees of Montgomery College called to order a brief public meeting for purposes of voting to go into closed session at 7:12 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2019, in room S408, of the Central Services Building, Rockville, Maryland. Persons present for this meeting were:

Trustees Present: Mr. Michael J. Knapp, Chair  
Ms. Gloria Aparicio Blackwell, First Vice Chair  
Dr. Leslie S. Levine, Second Vice Chair  
Dr. Michael A. Brintnall, Trustee  
Mr. Robert J. Hydorn, Trustee  
Dr. Frieda K. Lacey, Trustee  
Mr. Robert F. Levey, Trustee  
Ms. Marsha Suggs Smith, Trustee

Trustees Absent: Dr. Kenneth J. Hoffman, Trustee  
Ms. Sasini Wickramatunga, Student Trustee

Present Ex-Officio: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President and Secretary-Treasurer

Resource Staff Present: Dr. Monica Brown, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs  
Dr. Stephen D. Cain, Chief of Staff/Chief Strategy Officer  
Mr. Timothy Dietz, General Counsel  
Dr. Sanjay Rai, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Ms. Donna Schena, Interim Senior Vice President for Administrative and Fiscal Services  
Mr. David Sears, Senior Vice President for Advancement and Community Engagement

Board Chair Knapp asked for a motion to go into closed session to discuss one personnel and privacy matter—subsections 1 and 2; one privacy matter—subsection 2; one legal matter—subsection 7; and two collective bargaining matters—subsection 9. Upon a motion made by Trustee Hydorn and seconded by Trustee Levine, the Board voted unanimously to go into closed session.

This meeting was closed under the following provisions of General Provisions Article 3-305(b):

Subsection 2	Honorary Degrees for 2019 Commencement	to discuss the selection of persons to receive honorary degrees at 2019 Commencement and to discuss the personal attributes and reputations of potential honorees
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Subsections 1&2	Recommendation for Medallion for a deceased employee	to discuss the employment history and personal attributes of a nominee for a board recognition award
Subsection 7	Open Meetings Act	to obtain legal advice from counsel on interpretation and application of Open Meetings Act
Subsection 9	Collective Bargaining Updates & FY20 County Executive's Recommended Budget, Impacts on Negotiations	to discuss progress of negotiation sessions with the AFSCME and AAUP bargaining units, and the potential impacts of county executive's FY20 budget recommendations on negotiations

## **RECONVENE PUBLIC MEETING**

The Board of Trustees of Montgomery College reconvened on March 18, 2019, in the Board Room, Central Services Building, Rockville, Maryland, to conduct the public session of their March meeting. This public session was called to order by Board Chair Knapp at 8:07 p.m.

## **2. ROLL CALL**

Trustees Present:	Mr. Michael J. Knapp, Chair Ms. Gloria Aparicio Blackwell, First Vice Chair Dr. Leslie S. Levine, Second Vice Chair Dr. Michael A. Brintnall, Trustee Mr. Robert Hydorn, Trustee Dr. Frieda K. Lacey, Trustee Mr. Robert F. Levey, Trustee Ms. Marsha Suggs Smith, Trustee
Trustees Absent:	Dr. Kenneth J. Hoffman, Trustee Ms. Sasini Wickramatunga, Student Trustee
Resource Staff Present:	Dr. Monica Brown, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Stephen D. Cain, Chief of Staff/Chief Strategy Officer Mr. Timothy Dietz, General Counsel Dr. Sanjay Rai, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Ms. Donna Schena, Interim Senior Vice President for Administrative and Fiscal Services Mr. David Sears, Senior Vice President for Advancement and Community Engagement

## **3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Trustee Hydorn made a motion to approve the agenda and Trustee Levine seconded. The motion unanimously passed and the agenda was approved by the board.

## **4. COMMENTS PERIOD**

There were no speakers to come before the board.

## **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. February 18, 2019 Closed Session**
- B. February 18, 2019 Public Session**

Trustee Suggs Smith made a motion to approve the two sets of minutes. Trustee Hydorn seconded.

**6. BR#19-03-024**

**Tribute to Mr. Kevin Murphy**

Trustee Hydorn made a motion to approve the resolution and Trustee Levey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Chair Knapp and Dr. Pollard offered their condolences on behalf of the board and presented a framed resolution to the family of Mr. Murphy.

**7. REPORTS**

**A. Student Recognition**

The board recognized Ms. Carol Faye Walls, an Achieving the Dream (ATD) 2019 Scholar, who attended the 2019 ATD Annual DREAM Conference in Long Beach, California, on February 19-22, 2019.

At the conference, Ms. Walls gave a presentation filled with hope, coupled with resilience and perseverance regarding her life's journey. Her presentation moved attendees so much that many were unable to hold back their own happy tears and the joy that filled their hearts. Ms. Walls reminded everyone of the importance of community colleges and why we are in the business of higher education.

A video of Ms. Walls' speech at the conference was played during the meeting. Ms. Walls thanked the College and her advisor, Dr. Denise Simmons Graves.

**B. President's Report**

Dr. Pollard opened her report by thanking Carol Faye Walls, the student speaker this evening. She shared that Ms. Walls has a profound life story and is an inspiration to us all. Dr. Pollard also offered special thanks to Dr. Denise Simmons Graves, who facilitated Ms. Walls' nomination to be a DREAM scholar.

Turning her attention to the county executive's budget announcement, Dr. Pollard reported that on Friday, March 15, County Executive Marc Elrich announced his proposed fiscal year 2020 operating budget. Dr. Pollard shared that the College has asked for an increase of \$3.1 million, the lowest requested increase in the last seven years. She shared that the College learned on Friday that the county executive recommended that the College receive no additional county funds over last year in the county's FY20 budget.

Dr. Pollard discussed that the effort level of county funding is tremendously disappointing and frustrating, especially after the College diligently worked to propose an exceptionally lean FY20 budget that is fair and reasonable in a challenging fiscal environment. She shared that the board's FY20 adopted budget balances the need for:

- long-term fiscal discipline,
- our commitments to our faculty and staff for fair compensation,
- and our mission to provide affordable high quality post-secondary education for our students.

Dr. Pollard stated that in the coming days that the College will work together to seek full funding of the \$3.1 million in requested county funds because our dedicated faculty and staff and our students deserve no less.

Dr. Pollard shared that she plans to attend the county council's public hearings regarding the executive's recommended budget, which will be on April 8, 9, and 10, testifying on April 9. She also shared that the Education and Culture Committee will discuss the capital budget on March 21 and the operating budget worksession for the operating budget is on April 12.

Dr. Pollard concluded budget talks sharing that at the state level, the House made budget reductions that impact community colleges. Dr. Pollard told the Board that the state Senate, thanks, in part, to Senator Nancy King, opposed those cuts. Dr. Pollard advised the Board that the final budget action by the Maryland General Assembly is expected soon.

Dr. Pollard shifted her report to discuss Student Advocacy Day, which was held on March 5. She shared that 13 Montgomery College students travelled to Annapolis to meet with state delegates and senators who represent Montgomery County. Dr. Pollard and others, joined students from across the state for Student Advocacy Day, an annual event sponsored by the Maryland Association of Community Colleges.

Finally, Dr. Pollard introduced her written President's Focus report sharing that student academic success is vital to retention. Dr. Pollard discussed the fact for many students, additional academic support is essential for them to make progress and stay enrolled. She also discussed that the College has several programs that provide such support in highly structured ways, as well as others that are less formal and can be accessed by students sporadically.

Dr. Pollard concluded her report sharing that the College continues to look for creative ways to provide students with the academic support they need to meet the demands of their college classes.

### **C. Chair's Report**

Board Chair Knapp opened his report by sharing that the Board hosted its fifth and final Constituent Conversation of the year, this time with the College Council. He discussed the robust conversation about issues related to student retention.

Board Chair Knapp thanked the members of the College Council, the Student Council, Staff Council, Faculty Council, and Administrator Council for their leadership and dedication in representing their colleagues. He shared that next month, we will receive a summary of the major points gleaned from these conversations.

Board Chair Knapp turned his attention to the Education Budget Forums by thanking Dr. Pollard for her participation in the Forums hosted by Councilmember Craig Rice. Board Chair Knapp shared that the forums serve as a means to engage the public in a dialogue about all the education needs in Montgomery County.

Board Chair Knapp shared that Dr. Pollard joins Councilmember Rice along with Dr. Jack Smith, superintendent of schools, at these events. He also shared that the next forum will be held at Montgomery College on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus a week from this Wednesday, on March 27.

Board Chair Knapp thanked First Vice Chair Aparicio Blackwell as well as Trustees Brintnall, Hoffman, Lacey, Levey, and Suggs Smith for their participation and support at the Joint Boards Meeting on February 27. Board Chair Knapp shared that the meeting was focused on the education needs of the county.

Board Chair Knapp shared that the three organizations—the College, MCPS, and USG—will be participating in a regional grant that will help to further define and strengthen students' pathways through high school, community college, and university into the job market.

Board Chair Knapp shifted his report to the Dr. Pollard's Presidential Dialogue Series with Former US Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. Board Chair Knapp shared that this conversation was an engaging dialogue about education in the United States and the critical importance of radical inclusion for the success of all students. Mr. Knapp thanked First Vice Chair Aparicio Blackwell, and Trustees Brintnall, Hoffman, Lacey, and Suggs Smith for attending. Board Chair Knapp shared that the next Dialogue will feature a conversation with former County Executive Ike Leggett on April 30.

Board Chair Knapp reminded and encouraged trustees to attend the following upcoming events:

- Trustee Information Day, Monday, April 1, and the
- President's State of the College, Wednesday, April 10.

Board Chair Knapp ended his report with follow-ups to topics from the last meeting on February 18.

Board Chair Knapp first addressed concerns regarding the provisional approval that the board gave in February to the resolution entitled, "Award of Contract, Soccer Field Complex Construction, Rockville Campus, Bid 619-002."

Board Chair Knapp reminded trustees of several questions were posed:

1. What is the incidence of injuries for a synthetic turf field as compared to a natural grass field?
2. Does synthetic turf cause cancer and/or pulmonary diseases?
3. What are the advantages and disadvantages of synthetic turf versus natural turf?
4. What are the insurance considerations for Montgomery College regarding athlete injuries and synthetic turf surface?

Board Chair Knapp shared that staff prepared an extensive report to address these and other issues comparing synthetic turf and natural turf. He also shared that the officers discussed the report and acted on the Board's provisional acceptance to officially approve the contract moving forward with the synthetic turf as in the design.

Board Chair Knapp shared that the entire report was also shared with the full Board.

Mr. Knapp thanked Dr. Pollard and her staff for their responsiveness to the questions and the extensive research that staff conducted.

Board Chair Knapp concluded his report with a final concern regarding January Meeting minutes that were approved last month. He shared that staff reported to him two typos and

an omission in the minutes. One typo was a reference to 2019 instead of 2018. Another typo reversed the number on a resolution number, making it one, zero, zero instead of zero, zero, one.

Board Chair Knapp also shared that in the minutes, one resolution, 19-01-005, was inadvertently listed without its resolution number. Board Chair Knapp advised the Board that he approved the correction of these technical errors and the revised, corrected minutes have been posted online.

#### **D. Montgomery College Foundation Liaison Report**

Montgomery College Foundation Liaison, Trustee Michael Brintnall, reported that the Foundation Board met on February 27. Dr. Brintnall reported that as of January 31, the Montgomery College Foundation has raised over \$23 million in cash and pledges toward its \$30 million campaign to be completed by June 30, 2020. This represents 77 percent of the goal completed with 17 months remaining. He also shared that for the current fiscal year, the Foundation has raised \$1.94 million in cash and pledges toward its goal of \$5.5 million. The office expects to close 12 more major gifts before year end, totaling \$3.1 million.

Trustee Brintnall also reported that the Foundation's Board of Directors approved an addendum to the dual use operating agreement, which deals with personnel matters related to the Montgomery College Foundation Executive Director and Director of Finance positions. He stated that the addendum addresses key issues related to the employment of the executive director, whose official new title will be vice president of development and alumni relations/executive director. He added that there are some unique considerations since the person is an employee of the College, but has special responsibilities to the Foundation and its Board of Directors. He noted that the addendum needs approval from the Board of Trustees and is planned to be brought to the Board later this year.

Trustee Brintnall also shared that a vice president of development and alumni relations/executive director has been selected to fill this vacant position and will start at the College next month. The individual was selected through a national search process and has the approval of the Foundation's Board of Directors.

Trustee Brintnall concluded his report by sharing that the Foundation will host its annual Scholarship Recognition Luncheon on Friday, April 5, at the Bethesda North Marriott. He shared that all trustees have been invited. The speaker for this year's luncheon is Don Dawn, president of the Gordon and Marilyn Macklin Foundation. The student speaker is Luis Rosales, an MC alumnus and former student trustee, who is now a senior at the Robert McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University.

#### **8. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. BR#19-03-025**

**Personnel Actions Confirmation Report**

**B. BR#19-03-026**

**Honorary Degrees**

Trustee Hydorn made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Trustee Levey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **9. BR#19-03-027**

**Response to Montgomery County Planning Board  
Mandatory Referral Recommendations, Takoma  
Park/Silver Spring Campus Catherine and Isiah Leggett  
Math and Science Building Project, Application  
MR2019011**

