



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**  
**Montgomery College, Rockville, Maryland**  
**December 16, 2019**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair Aparicio Blackwell called the public meeting to order on December 16, 2019, in the Board Room of the Central Services Building, Rockville, Maryland, at 8:17 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

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

Trustees Absent: Ms. Sarah Haj Hamad, Student Trustee  
Ms. Maricé I. Morales

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, Senior Vice President for Administrative and Fiscal Services  
Mr. David Sears, Senior Vice President for Advancement and Community Engagement

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Board Chair Aparicio Blackwell announced that because Trustee Haj Hamad was absent, her liaison's report of the Alumni Association meeting would be moved to January.

Trustee Levey made a motion to approve the revised agenda. Trustee Suggs Smith seconded. The Board voted unanimously to pass the motion.

#### **4. COMMENTS PERIOD**

There were no speakers to present comments to the Board.

#### **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

##### **A. November 18, 2019 Closed Session**

##### **B. November 18, 2019 Public Meeting**

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

The Board voted unanimously to pass the motion.

#### **6. REPORTS**

##### **A. Student Spotlight**

The Board welcomed Ms. Ashley Matthews and Mr. Peter Quintana, students who are currently enrolled in the College's GED Test Preparation Program.

Ms. Matthews is a 25-year old single mom who is currently working full time and attending Montgomery College to prepare for the GED. She recounted how she was raised by a single mother and her high school years were chaotic. Through the GED Test Preparation program, Ms. Matthews is now able to put herself on the pathway to realizing her dream of one day opening a bakery.

Mr. Quintana is a 24-year old student from Miami. He, like Ms. Matthews, has set himself on a path to complete the GED tests, join the Marines, and one day join the Maryland State Police Department. Mr. Quintana expressed his gratitude to Montgomery College and Montgomery County for the opportunities to better himself through education.

##### **B. President's Report**

Dr. Pollard began her report by wishing all students the best as they take their final exams of the fall semester. She added that winter classes would begin the week of December 23 and spring semester is set to begin on January 27.

Dr. Pollard recognized the Raptors volleyball team for an outstanding season and congratulated the men's and women's basketball teams for their third-place finish in the Montgomery College Holiday Tournament.

Dr. Pollard turned her attention to the testing of the PE Building for asbestos. She reported that test results for asbestos in the PE Building at the Rockville Campus came back negative. She reminded the Board that out of an abundance of caution, people, classes, and activities were removed out of the building during testing.

Dr. Pollard concluded her report with an overview of President's Focus, concentrating on the impact of artificial intelligence in the fields of accounting, law, communications, and journalism. She reported that in some ways the advent of artificial intelligence, which is often billed as a job-destroyer, may allow the best-prepared students in these fields to accelerate their professional development as they take on tasks that require higher cognitive processing.

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

Board Chair Aparicio Blackwell opened her report by thanking Trustees for their participation in the many advocacy events and campus visits that took place in the late fall.

Looking ahead to 2020, Board Chair Aparicio Blackwell noted two education budget forums with Montgomery County Councilmember Craig Rice that would take place in January and March. The purpose of these forums is to provide a means to engage the public in a dialogue about all the education needs in Montgomery County. In addition to Dr. Pollard, MCPS Superintendent Dr. Jack Smith and USG Executive Director Dr. Stewart Edelstein will also attend.

Board Chair Aparicio Blackwell reported that Trustee Emeritus Ben Wu was named the CEO for the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation. Until his new placement became official, Trustee Emeritus Wu had been serving as deputy secretary of the Maryland Department of Commerce. Board Chair Aparicio Blackwell wished him well in his new endeavor.

In closing her report, Board Chair Aparicio Blackwell acknowledged the retirement announcement of Dr. Charlene Dukes, president of Prince George's Community College. Dr. Dukes will leave office in June 2020.

### **D. Committee and Liaison Reports**

#### **i. Community Engagement Committee**

Committee Chair Robert Levey gave a recap of the Community Engagement Committee meeting that took place November 18, 2019. The committee received updates on several topics, including the progress of the MC2020 Campaign and PIC MC. Associate Vice President Ray Gilmer gave a presentation on brand awareness of the College within the community and Director of Community Engagement Karla Silvestre spoke about the College's community engagement partnerships. The committee also heard an update on the College's advocacy efforts and received a status report of major facilities projects across all three campuses.

Committee Chair Levey thanked his colleagues on the committee, Trustees Knapp and Morales, as well as Senior Vice President David Sears and his team for their efforts.

#### **ii. Education and Culture Committee**

Committee Chair Frieda Lacey reported on the last meeting of the Education and Culture Committee, which took place on November 18, 2019. She stated that as a result of the Fall Board Retreat, the committee identified several goals from the MC2025 strategic plan on which to focus. The committee prioritized Goal I, Empower Students to Start Smart and Succeed, and Goal II, Enhance Transformational Teaching Practices and Learning Environments, but will also address elements of other strategic planning goals throughout the year.

Committee Chair Lacey reported that Vice President and Provost Margaret Latimer and Interim Chief Analytics and Institutional Effectiveness Officer John Hamman provided an update to the committee on the "Scheduling for Student Success" initiative, which has been underway since 2018. In addition, Dr. Monica Brown notified the committee of

the Advising Initiative pilot and will present further detail at the next committee meeting. Dr. Lacey concluded her report by thanking her colleagues on the committee, Trustees Brintnall, Haj Hamad, and Knapp, as well as Senior Vice Presidents Brown and Rai.

**iii. Strategic Plan Assessment Committee**

Board Chair Aparicio Blackwell, who also serves as chair of the Strategic Plan Assessment Committee, gave an update of the inaugural meeting that took place on December 9, 2019. She reviewed the committee's role and work objectives, highlighting the following areas: (1) reviewing the President's plans for *Montgomery College 2025* implementation; (2) reviewing strategic recommendations regarding the assessment of *Montgomery College 2025*; (3) reviewing the *Montgomery College 2025* "heat map" and developing strategic recommendations as needed for the Board regarding implementation process; (4) developing leadership that grows the Board's capacity to engage in generative governance; and (5) developing leadership around the Board's use of data related to the College's strategic plan.

In closing her report, Board Chair Aparicio Blackwell enumerated next steps and thanked her fellow committee members, Trustees Frieda Lacey, Bob Levey, and Marsha Suggs Smith, as well as Dr. Michelle Scott and Dr. Kevin Long for their work and serving as resources to the committee.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

- BR#19-12-133 Personnel Actions Confirmation Report**
- BR#19-12-134 National and State Designated Awareness Days and Months for 2020**

Trustee Suggs Smith made a motion to approve the items of the consent agenda. Trustee Knapp seconded.

The Board voted unanimously to pass the motion.

**8. AWARD OF CONTRACT**

- BR#19-12-135 Award of Contract, Humanities Building Central Plant Cooling Tower Replacement, Rockville Campus, Bid 620-008**

Trustee Knapp made a motion to approve the award of contract. Trustee Levey seconded.

The Board voted unanimously to pass the motion.

**9. CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER**

- BR#19-12-136 Contract Change Order, Award of Contract, Mass Notification System, Phase 2, Rockville Campus, Bid 617-010**

Trustee Hoffman made a motion to approve the contract change order. Trustee Knapp seconded.

The Board voted unanimously to pass the motion.

**10. REGULATORY MATTER**

- BR#19-12-137 Audited Financial Statements for June 30, 2019 and 2018**

Trustee Levey made a motion to approve this award of contract. Trustee Hoffman seconded.

The Board voted unanimously to pass the motion.

**11. BUDGET MATTER**

**Presentation of the Proposed FY21 Current, Enterprise, and Other Funds Budgets**

Financial Sustainability Committee Chair Suggs Smith provided a report of the last committee meeting, which took place on December 11, 2019. She thanked her committee colleagues, Trustees Hoffman and Morales, for their work. Committee Chair Suggs Smith reported that the committee supports this budget, which proposes a modest increase in expenditures and, at this time, no increase in tuition.

Committee Chair Suggs Smith reminded Trustees that the presentation of the proposed budget is for information only and the Board will be asked to take action at the January 29 Board Meeting.

Ms. Schena and Ms. Greaney to introduced the proposed FY21 operating budget, which represents responsible efforts to ensure alignment with the College’s strategic goals and safeguard financial sustainability. They reported that the total request for the fiscal year 2021 proposed operating budget totals \$317,200,000, which represents a 0.80 percent increase compared to last year.

**12. NEW BUSINESS**

Trustee Suggs Smith announced that Howard County Community College had been named as the 2019 Malcolm Baldrige Award winner in the education category. Trustee Hoffman offered thoughts on certain barriers to student success, such as affordable housing.

**13. TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

There were no comments from Trustees.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Trustee Knapp and a second by Trustee Levine, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:24 p.m.

signature on file

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Gloria Aparicio Blackwell  
Chair, Board of Trustees

signature on file

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DeRionne P. Pollard, PhD  
President and Secretary-Treasurer, Board of Trustees