

Transcription of College Board Building and Sites Committee Meeting

Date: September 10, 2020 – 2:30 p.m.

Attendees

- Mr. John Van Hemert, Vice President for Finance and Technology
- Dr. Mark Rowh, Vice President for Workforce Development and External Relations
- Dr. Peggy Dewald-Link, College Board Member and member of Building and Sites Committee
- Mr. Jonathan Sweet – College Board Member and member of the Building and Sites Committee

Dr Rowh – The State Board for Community Colleges directed all the colleges to review the names of their facilities to make sure they are appropriate. What led up to this was all the statewide and national discussion of federal monuments, etc. This is what the driving force was. What the VCCS colleges were asked to do was to review the names of our facilities. There are two options; 1) The local Board is asked to review and if any building needed to be renamed, that would be a recommendation to the State Board to handle; 2) if anything less than a building name it would be up to the local Board. An ad hoc committee was appointed which included College Board members as well as members of the community. They reviewed all the names of facilities at New River Community College which included some names of classrooms and rooms as well as building names. A thorough review was done; the consensus of the committee was that there was nothing in any facility name that needed to be changed or had any reason for anyone to be offended by. The ad hoc committee is suggesting to the Building and Sites Committee of the Board is that this committee make the recommendation to the full Board at the next meeting that following the review of this matter that the College Board feels the names are appropriate as they now exist. There was also a discussion in the ad hoc committee as not part of the motion but as background information. The suggestion was made that at the next naming opportunity that Dr. N.L. Bishop be considered as a person to whom something would be named. He is a prominent person in the education community now and has a NRCC background. This would not be a motion to the Board but should be reported so it could be added to the minutes of the College Board meeting.

Dr. Dewald-Link – Dr. Bishop currently serves on the VCCS State Board, and from something I read, it would not be appropriate until he was an ex-member for naming a facility after him. I am not sure that we need to take any stand on this at this time.

Mr. Van Hemert – The Committee will need to vote on the recommendation of no changes.

Mr. Sweet – I concur and so move and Peggy Dewald-Link seconded and stated I think we (the ad hoc committee) went over every building and every classroom and we found nothing to change.

Mr. Van Hemert - I will introduce the item and pass it on to Dr. Dewald-Link for a recommendation to the full Board.

Peggy – I do have one suggestion possibly. I do not know if we need to make this in terms of a motion or something to consider. I believe that when we were going through the list of names for facilities, it was very interesting to read who was nominated and how they were named. I think that it would be appropriate to have pictures and a brief description of those folks who have buildings and classrooms named after them and possibly be something that is added to the wall outside of the Admissions Office. If anyone ever had a question about who someone was, they could view this.

Dr. Rowh – I think that is a great suggestion. Would you like to mention to this in the Board meeting as a suggestion? Dr. Dewald-Link will suggest this to the full Board.

Mr. Van Hemert – The next item for discussion is the Crisis and Emergency Management (CEMP) Plan. We have only made minor changes to it. Any major changes were made about a year ago when the person who wrote this retired. She modified it and made it up to date in April 2019. The latest revisions were just contact information changes. The Infectious Disease Plan was added as an appendix. We are in a pandemic right now, so we have that plan included in this plan. We need to submit this to the VCCS and VDEM. The local Board must approve this before we send it to them.

Mr. Sweet – I move that we recommend to the full NRCC Board approval of the CEMP plan as presented. Dr. Dewald-Link seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken and both members voted yes.

Dr. Dewald-Link will make the recommendation to the full Board to approve the CEMP Plan as presented.

Mr. Sweet – I move to adjourn the committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45.