

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Thursday, March 23, 2017

Ackerson Hall – Rutgers University-Newark

PRESENT: Timothy Farrow, *Chair*, Joe Lemkin, *Vice Chair*, Kim Sciallo, *Corporate Secretary*, Debra O’Neal, *Treasurer*, Donna K. Thornton, *Vice President for Alumni Relations*; Greg Bedard, Julie Bianchini; Jim Cummings, Amanda Ebokosia; Michael Esposito; Houshang Parsa, Squire Servance, Iesha Suber; Gloria Vanderham; Mary Clare Venuto, Linda Wray

ALSO PRESENT: Alexandra Brown, *Administrative Assistant, Alumni Relations Rutgers-Newark*; Hilary Cohen, *Senior Director for Events*, Lisa English, *Director, Alumni Relations, RBHS*, Patrice Jaskiewicz, *Executive Assistant*, Bonnie Kenselaar, *Associate Director, Alumni Relations Rutgers-Newark*, Yvette Martinez, *Interim Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations and Senior Director for Volunteer Engagement*, Kristy Omelianuk, *Director, Business Development and Operations*, Scott Owens, *Director, Alumni Relations Rutgers-Camden* Mike Rutkowski, *Director of Events*, Dana Shapiro, *Associate Director of Volunteer Engagement*; Gloria Walker, *Director, Alumni Relations Rutgers-Newark*

EXCUSED: Neal Collins, Keanna Ralph, Charles Spingler

UNEXCUSED: Michael Duncan

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Tim Farrow, Board Chair.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the September 29, 2016 meeting of the Board was circulated in advance of the meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved following a motion (Houshang Parsa) duly seconded (Debra O’Neal).

CHAIR’S REPORT (Tim Farrow) No Report

VICE CHAIR’S REPORT (Joe Lemkin) No Report

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT (Donna Thornton)

- Ms. Thornton thanked everyone for attending this evening’s meeting. In addition, she thanked all the board members who have been supporting the Scarlet Council by attending various events and interacting with the group.
- Ms. Thornton provided some staff updates;
 - Yvette Martinez has assumed the role of Interim AVP while a search is underway.
 - Kristy Omelianuk was promoted to Director of Business Development and Operations.

- Gloria Walker is joining us for the first time as the Director of Alumni Relations in Newark. She comes to us from the Chancellor's office.
- Thanks to Bonnie Kenselaar for filling in as the Interim Director
- The REAL nominations call has been issued and the deadline is May 12. Please consider nominating an alumna or alumnus or charter group.
- An invitation to HDA has been handed out tonight as well as being placed in the mail. It will be held at the Hyatt this year and everyone is encouraged to attend.

STRATEGIC PLAN INPUT: FOUNDATION AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

(Donna Thornton)

Ms. Thornton explained the strategic planning process and asked for input from the board on two strategic priorities. The board members were placed into two groups with one board member taking notes in order to report out later and one staff member facilitating. Each group was tasked with providing input on their assigned priority and was given a deadline of thirty minutes. At the end of the thirty minutes, the two groups then reported out to the entire board and staff.

BOARD PRIORITIES – No Reports

ACTION ITEMS

- a. ***Resolution to Approve the Slate of Officers of the RUAA Board of Directors – presented by Mary Clare Venuto***
There was a motion to approve the resolution (Linda Wray), seconded (Gloria Vanderham) with an opportunity for discussion. The resolution was approved unanimously followed by a voice vote of all voting members present.

- b. ***Resolution to Approve the Slate of Regular Members of the RUAA Board of Directors – presented by Mary Clare Venuto***
There was a motion to approve the resolution (Houshang Parsa), seconded (Squire Servance) with an opportunity for discussion. The resolution was approved unanimously followed by a voice vote of all voting members present.

- c. ***Resolution to Approve the Recommended Nominees to the University Senate – presented by Mary Clare Venuto***
There was a motion to approve the resolution (Squire Servance), seconded (Debra O'Neal) with an opportunity for discussion. The resolution was approved unanimously followed by a voice vote of all voting members present.

- d. ***Resolution to Approve the At-Large Council members – presented by Mary Clare Venuto***
There was a motion to approve the resolution (Squire Servance), seconded (Julie Bianchini) with an opportunity for discussion. The resolution was approved unanimously followed by a voice vote of all voting members present.

e. Resolution to Change Name from Committee on Diversity to Committee on Inclusion and Diversity

There was a motion to approve the resolution (Michael Esposito), seconded (Mary Clare Venuto) with an opportunity for discussion. The resolution was approved unanimously followed by a voice vote of all voting members present.

CONSENT AGENDA - MOTION TO ACCEPT WRITTEN REPORTS:

Mr. Farrow reminded the Board that if a Board member would like to discuss any item listed under consent agenda, the item will be removed, at which point the topic will be placed under the New Business section of the agenda.

Tim Farrow called for a motion to accept reports. Motion approved. There was a motion to accept reports (Jim Cummings), seconded (Debra O'Neal), with an opportunity for discussion. The written reports were accepted unanimously following a voice vote of all voting members present.

UPCOMING NOTEWORTHY DATES – Tim Farrow provided an update from the list of the upcoming events.

OLD BUSINESS: None presented

NEW BUSINESS: None presented

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Greg Bedard announced there is an open house at the Schenck Observatory on the Old Queens campus during the afternoon of Saturday, April 29 on Rutgers Day/Alumni Weekend.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved (Houshang Parsa) and seconded by (Squire Servance). The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
Kim Sciallo
Corporate Secretary

Prepared by:
Patrice Jaskiewicz
Executive Assistant
Alumni Relations, New Brunswick