



**Board of Trustees Retreat
Friday, March 19, 2021**

MINUTES

Start: 8:30 a.m.
End: 1:05 p.m.
Present: Mr. Curcio-Chair, Dr. Morgus-Vice Chair, Dr. Crowley-Secretary, Dr. Carrick (arrived to meeting around 12:30 p.m.), Mr. Castner, Dr. Digby, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Geraci (left meeting around 12:30 p.m. due to emergency), Mr. Gewecke, Mr. Hofmann, Dr. Connolly-President and Ex-Officio Member, and Mrs. Fullem-Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees/Recording Secretary.

8:30-9:30 INTRODUCTIONS, OPENING COMMENTS, AND OUTLINE FOR RETREAT

- Bill Curcio, Board Chair
- All Trustees
 - How long have you been on the SCCC board?
 - Why did you initially want to serve on the SCCC board?
 - What special area(s) of expertise and interest do you bring to the SCCC board?
- President Jon Connolly
- Dr. Lawrence (Larry) Nespoli

9:30-9:40 BREAK

9:40-10:45 OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Key principles about good trusteeship, with a New Jersey lens
- Community college “genealogy”
- Never been a more important time, a more exciting time, for community colleges
- But challenging times too.

10:45-11:00 BREAK

11:00-12:10 BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT – PART ONE

- The importance of regular board self-assessment.
- Session began with the following exercise, based on how long each trustee has been on the board:

- If 0-2 years: What new perspectives and ideas do you think you bring to the board?
- If 3-5 years: What would you tell the new members about things you wished you knew when you joined the board?
- If more than 5 years: What is single most important piece of advice you would offer on how to be a good trustee?
- Second round was framed by two key questions:
 - What is the single most important thing that the board does well in your opinion?
 - What is the one thing that you would most like to see the board do in a new and different way?

12:10-12:20

BREAK

12:20-1:00

BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT – PART TWO

- Review of the survey results
- Conversations about future board (not college) goals.

12:15-1:05

MAJOR TAKE-AWAYS, CLOSING OBSERVATIONS, AND NEXT STEPS

- Major take-aways – Each board member was invited to share their single most important take-away from their time together this morning.
- Closing observations – Dr. Nespoli
- Next Steps – Board Chair Curcio and President Connolly

FOLLOW-UP

- Send survey results, PowerPoint, and meeting recording link to all Trustees (Mrs. Fullem).
- Create detailed document about outcomes and next steps (Dr. Nespoli/Mrs. Fullem).

Approved:



Paul B. Crowley, Secretary – Board of Trustees