

Board of Trustees
Executive Committee
Friday, June 3, 2022
12:00-1:15pm
Zoom

MINUTES

Committee in attendance: Chair Elisa Hamilton, Karen Keane, Denise Korn, Peter Nessen, Linda Snyder

Committee members absent: Jan Saragoni

Other trustees in attendance: Ella von Huene, Greg Stone, Pamela Parisi

Other attendees: Hannah Voit (Secretary to the Board), Robert Chambers, President Mary Grant, K. John Ashworth-King, Normand Gamache, Ellen Carr, Bob Perry, Maureen Keefe, Karen Abbott, Marjorie O'Malley

1. Call to order

Chair Hamilton called the meeting to order at 12:02pm.

2. Approval of the minutes:

Chair Hamilton began with a roll call to acknowledge attendance and to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2022 meeting.

VOTED: to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2022 Executive Committee meeting.

Yes: Chair Hamilton, Trustee Keane, Trustee Korn, Trustee Nessen, Trustee Snyder

3. Discussion regarding External Affairs and Development Committees

Chair Hamilton then began a discussion regarding the possibility of combining External Affairs and Development Committees; the Development committee has been meeting typically twice a year. If this was of interest, consideration could be given to a possible name change as well – for example, the Advancement Committee with an agenda that could alternate between development and external affairs each meeting.

Trustee Korn shared that the External Affairs committee had just had an engaged conversation and there seems to be a gap in the relationship between development and external affairs committees and this could be an opportunity to bring them together.

Vice Chair Keane added that currently the Development committee often feels reactive and as if it is reporting on events that have already happened – merging the two could help remedy this?

Trustee Nessen expressed interest in having a better understanding of the priorities and work of the Foundation in order to better help strategize about coordinating development efforts.

Trustee Snyder shared that this could be an opportunity to provide a solution via the committee structure. She said that she wants to make sure that External Affairs has an important role in supporting the President in outside relationships and wants to make sure that would remain.

Trustee Parisi noted that a committee charter would need to be rewritten and was not entirely sure that Development and External Affairs would blend.

President Grant stated that it would be helpful to consider how committees are aligned, including best use of staff time and effort. She said that there is a firewall by statute between the Foundation and College, but there is also an important role for the board in developing a strategy on advancement.

Marjorie O'Malley (VP of Institutional Advancement & Exec. Dir. of the MassArt Foundation) encouraged those who are interested in development to engage with those activities and bring their expertise to efforts like those around the 150th anniversary, encouraging individuals and companies to be excited about MassArt.

Chair Hamilton suggested that all the committee charters could benefit from being reviewed and that this conversation would carry over into the next academic year.

President Grant added that bylaw review would continue over the summer, including examining charters.

4. Items requiring a vote:

- a. **Vote 1:** to elect board officers for FY2023, effective July 1st for Chair and Vice Chair:

Chair - Elisa Hamilton

Vice-Chair - Karen Keane

It was then VOTED: to recommend the election of Elisa Hamilton as Chair and Karen Keane as Vice-Chair, effective July 1, 2022.

Yes: Chair Hamilton, Trustee Keane, Trustee Korn, Trustee Nessen, Trustee Snyder

- b. **Vote 2:** to elect the Chair's appointment of standing committee chairs, effective July 1st

Academic and Student Affairs committee - *Denise Korn*

Administration and Finance committee - *Linda Snyder and Peter Nessen*
Development committee - *Karen Keane*
External Affairs committee - *Jan Saragoni*

It was then **VOTED: to recommend the election of the Chair's appointment of standing committee chairs, effective July 1, 2022.**

Yes: Chair Hamiton, Trustee Keane, Trustee Korn, Trustee Nessen, Trustee Snyder

- c. **Vote 3:** to elect members of the standing committees (other than the Executive committee), effective July 1st

Below is the list of committee members as they were for the '21-'22 year.

- a. *Academic and Student Affairs:* *Denise Korn (Chair), Daren Bascome, Ella von Huene* (student trustee), Lyssa Palu-ay (Ad-Hoc), Elisa Hamilton (ex-officio)*
- b. *Administrative and Finance:* *Linda Snyder (Co-Chair), Peter Nessen (Co-Chair), Karen Keane, Elisa Hamilton (ex-officio)*
- c. *Development:* *Karen Keane (Chair), Denise Korn, Pamela Parisi, Richard Marshall (Ad-Hoc), Elisa Hamilton (ex-officio)*
- d. *External Affairs:* *Jan Saragoni (Chair), Daren Bascome, Peter Nessen, Linda Snyder, Greg Stone, Elisa Hamilton (ex-officio)*

**The student trustee for the '22-'23 academic year is Nicholas Thompson.*

Chair Hamilton noted that Trustee Bhattacharya needed to be added to the Academic & Student Affairs list and Greg Stone noted that he would love to be a member of the Administration & Finance committee.

It was then **VOTED: to recommend the election of the Chair's appointment of standing committee chairs, effective July 1, 2021.**

Yes: Chair Hamiton, Trustee Keane, Trustee Korn, Trustee Nessen, Trustee Snyder

Trustee Snyder then said that she would like to make an unsolicited motion to thank both Chair Hamilton and Vice Chair Keane for their service throughout the past year and thank them for continuing to serve in their roles in the future.

It was then **VOTED: to express the trustees' deep thanks to the Chair and Vice Chair for their service in the past year and willingness to continue in the future.**

Yes: Chair Hamiton, Trustee Keane, Trustee Korn, Trustee Nessen, Trustee Snyder

d. Vote 4 - Delegation of Authority:

Chair Hamilton explained that each year the Board delegates certain authorities to select individuals or groups each year over the summer.

It was then VOTED: To delegate to the President of MassArt, in conjunction with the Chair and members of the Executive Committee, authority to take such actions over the summer 2022 months, as is deemed necessary and desirable and as permitted by law, until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees. The President shall report to the Board of Trustees on any such action(s) taken under this motion.

Yes: Chair Hamiton, Trustee Keane, Trustee Korn, Trustee Nessen, Trustee Snyder

5. Updates

a. FY2023 Board Schedule

Chair Hamilton then asked Hannah Voit, Board Secretary, to share her screen to display the proposed FY2023 Board meeting schedule and said that we would look for a retreat date in Jan/Feb timeframe. She noted that the first meeting would be pushed back relative to previous years to allow for everyone to get settled into the academic year.

President Grant explained that meeting virtually for committees would require continued action by the Governor and if the current regulation is extended, committees would meet virtually. Trustees Snyder and Nessen expressed their desire that trustees have the option to participate virtually at full Board meetings.

b. Alumni Trustee update:

President Grant shared that the Alumni office had issued a call to alumni through the Alumni Leadership Council for applicants for the Alumni Trustee seat being vacated by Trustee Parisi upon her reaching the maximum number of terms this year. The Alumni Leadership Council will review applications and send three candidates to the Executive Committee who will meet with candidates and send a finalist to the Governor for approval.

c. Legislative and Community Outreach update:

President Grant noted that \$100M for MassArt was included in the Governor's supplemental budget to support the Tower Project. The legislature has to act on the supplemental – not sure what the outcome will be but it is an encouraging sign of support. She noted that the Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development would be coming to visit the campus.

d. Public Safety update:

President Grant thanked Robert Chambers, VP for Strategic Engagement and Chief of Staff and VP of Student Development Maureen Keefe for their work on public safety.

Robert commended the current Interim Chief Normand Gamache for his work and noted that he could stay after his contract expires in June if needed as the College transitions to a new Chief.

The biggest challenges in the department have been around staffing, not unique to MassArt, as there are many unfilled positions in higher education across the spectrum. He noted that protests and incidents around racial insensitivity have also made it more difficult to recruit, and said there was a need to figure out how to increase wages for workers, while some are contractual obligations that MassArt cannot change on its own.

Robert also briefed the committee on training. There was a 3-year review of training to make sure MassArt was in compliance and in line with best practices that found MassArt is doing well. Training included CPR, training for emergency dispatchers, around mental health issues, and more. On emergency preparedness, Robert discussed the RAVE emergency alert system, which lets Public Safety communicate with the community.

Trustee Snyder asked about vacancy rates amongst ISOs and sworn officers, and Robert said that there are six CPO positions filled in the Dept. now (with one out on leave), and the Dept. has three vacancies. For ISOs there are 2 vacancies and 16 positions filled. He also explained the difference between CPOs and ISOs.

Robert explained that those who are attracted to MassArt want to work in a college environment, some appreciate working in an environment where they are not armed, and MassArt's location within Boston helps us attract candidates. Downsides for attracting candidates include the officers not being armed, wages, and having a smaller department (i.e., fewer career opportunities/pathways in the department). There was also a conversation about securing campus in emergencies and how with the pandemic, people are more accustomed to doors being locked, which helps with points of entry.

6. Other business:

There was no other business.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:25pm.