

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
September 24, 2019 - 4:15 pm  
Huntington Room

**MINUTES**

**Trustees Present:** Jan Saragoni (Chair), Hazel Afamefuna, Elisa Hamilton, Karen Keane, Denise Korn, Peter Nessen, Pamela Parisi, Linda Snyder, and David Nelson (Ex-Officio).

**Trustees Absent:** David Lee, Bill McQuillan,

**Staff/Faculty Presenting:** Jamie Costello, Maureen Keefe, Marjorie O'Malley, Kymberly Pinder, Bob Perry, and Susana Segat (Board Secretary).

Call to Order

Chair Saragoni called the meeting to order at 4:20pm.

Public Participation

There was no request from the public to comment on the agenda.

Adoption of the Agenda

On a motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

**VOTED: To adopt the agenda as submitted.**

Consideration of the Minutes of Prior Meeting: June 11, 2019

On a motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

**VOTED: to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2019 board meeting.**

Report of the Chair

Chair Saragoni welcomed participants to the first board meeting of the year and said that her goal as chair would be to help committees push forward on their important projects. She then invited Trustee Afamefuna to provide a report on student life at MassArt.

Trustee Afamefuna reported on the Class of 2019-2020 orientation, the election of a new Student Government Association (SGA) vice president, student participation at the September 20<sup>th</sup> Climate Strike, and the efforts to create a new self service model for the new chosen name policy implementation.

Report on Actions Taken Under Delegation of Authority

President Nelson reported that no actions were taken this summer under the board's delegation of authority.

Report of the President

President Nelson thanked Trustee Parisi for attending this month's Opening Day gathering. He noted that we began the year welcoming a strong incoming class, engaged returning students, and excellent faculty members. He described the positive attributes of having provided full scholarships for the drawing pre-semester program and the impressive work done by primers and resident assistants in orienting the first year class. He reported that the Colleges of the Fenway chorus, including the SGA president, sang the national anthem at a recent Red Sox game.

President Nelson then distributed the strategic plan's executive summary, which had been discussed with the Executive Committee at their recent meeting.

Report of the Standing Committees: Executive Committee

Having acted as Chair during its last meeting, Vice Chair Hamilton reported on that meeting's agenda, noting that trustees appreciated exploring critical issues that affect the institution, including development. President Nelson then provided a brief summary of the college's current pursuits on campus development. Trustee Snyder discussed the proposed timeline for presenting a proposal for inclusion in the Governor's 2-year capital planning cycle. Trustees discussed whether they

had to pick one scenario in their application to the state or whether they could propose different scenarios depending on different factors.

#### Report of the Standing Committees: Academic and Student Affairs

Committee Chair Hamilton presented the agenda of her committee's first meeting of the year, highlighting the Animation Department's report on their experience in department reviews, the professional development presentation, and the discussion on the two votes recommended for trustee action tonight.

Chair Hamilton yielded the floor to AVP Costello for an introduction to the Community Standards recommendation. AVP Costello thanked trustees for setting this recommendation on the table at the June meeting so that the document could be further refined. The new edition of MassArt's community standards is expected to be easier for students to understand and for the college to implement. Trustees discussed students' responsibilities while off-campus, the policies around marijuana use, and whether reporting arrests was mandatory. Trustee Afamefuna said that students appreciated that each case would be treated individually and according to individual factors. Trustees discussed the state of the college since last year's board vote to continue the non-arresting policy, the work of our new community policing officer, and the upcoming new Campus Safety Advisory Group.

On a motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

**VOTED LOG 20-01: To approve the updated community standards.**

Chair Hamilton yielded the floor to VP Keefe for an introduction to the new preferred name policy recommendation. VP Keefe discussed the history of the actions surrounding the new proposed edition of the policy and work done by both the technology department and the registrar's office to ensure a smooth implementation. She noted that 127 students have used the self-service application to date. Trustees discussed the breakthrough 2013 board vote on this policy and the possibility of documenting the process or presenting it at a future BHE meeting.

On a motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

**VOTED LOG 20-02: To approve the updated preferred name policy and rename: Pronoun and Chosen Name Policy.**

#### Report of the Standing Committees: Administration and Finance Committee

Committee Chair Snyder asked for a vote on the final FY2019 fiscal operations report. She noted that there was no year-end deficit but a \$1m surplus. She noted that while this amount might be only 1% of the budget, it is still significant. She thanked the administration for doing a great job on managing the budget and asked VP Perry to present the one-page summary document with trustees.

VP Perry discussed the undergraduate budget, stating that the college received a good portion of the collective bargaining costs from the state and that there were also increased revenues. He said that expenses were down due to one-time actions, such as allowing for personnel attrition and not hiring. As for the graduate program, enrollment was lower than planned but expenses were kept below revenue income. The revenues for continuing education were on track, but expenditures were high: plans to make changes are in the works. As for housing, that department performed better than expected, considering that the melt was greater than planned. He said that due to a light winter, energy savings were significant. Trustees discussed the housing cancellation fee and discussed with Provost Pinder about some of the ideas for improving continuing education.

VP Perry noted that there was a 6% increase to the fund balance from the previous year and 14% overall. He reminded trustees that in FY2016-2017, the board had approved deficit spending with the proviso that the money be paid back: it has now been paid back with an average return of 2%.

On a motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

**VOTED LOG 20-03: To accept the final FY19 fiscal operations report through June 30, 2019.**

#### Report of the Standing Committees: Development Committee

Committee Chair Keane reported that the committee has not met this year but that she is bringing forward business from last year's meeting. She referred trustees to Log 19-26 on naming specific college facilities.

VP O'Malley asked for a friendly amendment, changing the Outdoor Plaza name from the *Arne and Milly Glimcher Plaza* to the *Arne Glimcher Plaza*, striking the name Milly, on the request of the donor.

Chair Saragoni put the friendly amendment to a vote:

On a motion made and seconded, it was unanimously  
**VOTED to accept the friendly amendment on the Glimcher Plaza recommendation.**

On a motion made and seconded, it was unanimously  
**VOTED LOG 19-26 as amended: To accept the naming rights as indicated.**

Museum Complex – MassArt Art Museum (MAAM)  
Outdoor Plaza – Arne Glimcher Plaza  
Front Entrance - Kay Sloan Entrance  
Lobby (first floor) - Gudrun Arsaelsdottir Edelstein and Lynn Puritz Warner Lobby  
Gallery Education Inspiration Incubator - Barkan Family Big Ideas Studio  
Upper Staircase - Tali and Mark Kwatcher Staircase  
Exhibition Preparation Room (second floor) - Ingari Family Staff Recharge area  
Gallery Education Ideas Room (second floor) - Mabel Louise Riley Seminar Room

#### Other Business

President Nelson asked trustees to save the date: 2/22/20, for the grand opening of the MassArt Art Museum. He thanked the staff for working on this project smoothly and on time.

#### Adjournment

On a motion duly made and seconded, at 5:20pm it was unanimously  
**VOTED: To adjourn**