

## **MassArt Board of Trustees**

Executive Committee

September 17, 2021 11:20am-12:20pm

Meeting Minutes - Public Session

**Committee members present:** Elisa Hamilton (Chair), Karen Keane, Denise Korn, Peter Nessen (joined late,) Linda Snyder, Mary Grant (ex-officio).

**Committee members absent:** Jan Saragoni.

**Other Trustees present:** Ella von Huene, Pamela Parisi, Greg Stone.

**MassArt staff present:** Robert Chambers, Marjorie O'Malley, Bob Perry, Lauren Wilshusen, Lyssa Palu-ay, Ellen Carr, K. John Ashworth-King, Katie Westerlind (Secretary to the Board.)

### Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Hamilton at 11:24am.
- She welcomed the group to the first meeting of the Executive committee of the year, reminded everyone that this is a public meeting, and that all votes will be taken by roll call.
- She welcomed Robert Chambers, who has returned to MassArt as the Chief of Staff and Special Assistant to the President.

### Approval of the Minutes: May 27, 2021

- In order to consolidate procedural matters, roll call vote on minutes will also be considered attendance of committee members.
- Attendance of other trustees will also be taken for the sake of informing the public who is on the call.

On a motion duly made and seconded, by a vote of four in favor, none against, none abstaining:

**VOTED: to 1) acknowledge attendance, and 2) approve the minutes of the May 27, 2021 Executive committee meeting.**

Roll call: Keane, yes; Korn, yes; Nessen, absent; Snyder, yes; Saragoni, absent; Hamilton, yes.

### Reports

Delegated Authorities - Chair Hamilton; Mary K. Grant, President; Bob Perry, Vice President of A&F

- VP Perry reported on two delegated authorities under his time as Acting CEO:
  - One employee action - granted an educational leave for a staff member to participate in the Massart low residency program after consultation with Chair Hamilton.
  - Purchase approval for furniture in the president's office - approval, budget, timeline, history of current furniture, and reallocation efforts all discussed with Chair Hamilton.

### Discussion

September Board Meeting format - Chair Hamilton

- The trustees weighed the options of holding the Sept. 28 full board meeting in person versus virtual.
- Factors considered included the campus phased reopening, the ease with which the trustees can engage virtually, and the cases of COVID in the state of MA.
- Trustees were in agreement that the Sept. 28 board meeting will be held virtually.

By-Laws Updates - Chair Hamilton and President Grant

- Examining the by-laws will allow review of the governance, and changes will help the by-laws best support the work of the board.
- This includes assessing the committees and how that important work can best take place.
- The work of refreshing the by-laws will be done by the Executive committee or a small group with President Grant, Chief of Staff Chambers, and Secretary Westerlind. This will be staff driven work but it will require some trustees to review before coming back to the board through the Executive committee.
- *Trustee Nessen joined the meeting during this discussion.*

Progress and looking ahead: equity, inclusion, justice - *Lyssa Palu-ay, Dean of Justice, Equity, and Transformation*

Strategic planning updates - *President Grant*

- Through the pandemic, the strategic plan continued to guide the thinking and work of the college.
- Now the work lies in how to measure the work that has been done to tell the story of MassArt to constituents like the board and outside entities.

Installation of President Grant - *Chair Hamilton*

- The trustees discussed the installation/inauguration of President Grant, discussing elements of past presidential inaugurations they felt were best received by the community.
- The target date is September 2022, allowing for the semester to begin. The event will be a runway to the 150th celebration in 2023, but the president wants to be mindful that we are still in a pandemic and need to plan accordingly.

COVID planning - *President Grant*

- Madison Rivard, Director of COVID Operations, will join the full board meeting on Sept. 28 to give a comprehensive update.
- The COVID dashboard has been relaunched and the statistics are good.
- The testing site is busy with campus back up and running.
- The next question to address is how we move from crisis management to the ongoing, chronic situation of managing COVID?
- The trustees asked what percentage of campus is vaccinated. The whole campus is not fully vaccinated, but the Non-unit Professionals (NUP) have a 100% vaccination rate. There are ongoing efforts reminding the community to upload their vaccine records.
- Trustees wishing to visit campus should email Secretary Westerlind. Proof of vaccination or a negative covid test within 72 hours is required.

Executive session - *Chair Hamilton*

The purpose of this executive session is for the committee to discuss the appointment and reappointment of trustees. The only topic that may be discussed in executive session is the appointment and reappointment of trustees. The committee will not reconvene outside of the executive session.

The trustees entered executive session, adjourning the public session portion of the meeting.