

**MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023**

Massasoit Community College

Virtual

6:00 p.m.

Approved January 17, 2024

Attendees: Bonnie Blackler, Eshita Chakrabarti, Tom Carroll, Jim Dunphy, Kacey Hilton-Gilleo, Ann Sullivan, Eval Silvera

Absent: Laura Lawson, Steve Murphy, Kate Welch

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes

Vice Chair Sullivan – yes

Trustee Blackler – yes

Trustee Chakrabarti – yes

Trustee Dunphy – yes

Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes

Trustee Silvera - yes

Chairman's Report

Chair Carroll welcomed everyone to the meeting. He wishes everyone a happy holiday season.

Presidents Report

President DiPasquale welcomed everyone to the meeting. He discussed the various activities on campus: An Open House was held on Saturday, November 11 with 350 potential students attending, the golf tournament on October 2 was a success, we held a new employee breakfast, alumni staff breakfast, coffee with Cabinet & the Deans, the men's soccer team had their 200th win, numerous student events included the student club fair, a transfer college fair, First Generation college student kickoff event, CHOICES 40th anniversary celebration, Spirit Games, STEM week, and a county government event with alumni Jared Valanzola, Plymouth County Commissioner. We continue to build our relationship with Eversource, Braintree Public Schools, and Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital. Upcoming events include the Downtown center ribbon cutting on November 28, Rick Middleton former Boston Bruins presentation on November 29, Women's Leadership Initiative event on December 5 with keynote speaker Carol Bulman, CEO Jack Conway Real estate, will discuss Leading with Optimism in Uncertain Times. The Joint Committee on Higher Education will visit campus on November 17 for a tour and to meet with students.

The President shared that the final fall enrollment number is 5,029. He also shared that 61% of our students are female, 66% of our students are enrolled part time, and 57% of our students are of color.

Alumni Report

The Alumni association is working on the dissolution of the current Alumni association. The alumni will now be under Institutional Advancement.

Student Trustee Report

Trustee Hilton -Gilleo reported that the Student Advisory Council met on September 20 to vote on bylaws to be more specified. Commissioner Ortega was the guest speaker on October 12 and spoke on tuition equity, MASS Reconnect, students' mental health, basic needs and free community college. Amand Robbins, Campus Safety Advisor, spoke about medication, abortion services, pregnancy and parent resources, and reduction and protection against sexual assault. There was a SAC Executive Board election for the Student Senate. The senate has recognized twelve clubs in Brockton

and one club in Canton that include Veterans and Service Members Club, Cape Verde Student Association, Positively Massasoit, International Touch Club and more. The Culinary Club will be holding their Thanksgiving pie fundraiser to raise money for their trip to New York City over spring break. Two members of the Student Senate attended the annual Student Advisory Conference in Springfield. Workshops included leadership, Roberts Rules, mental health, and networking with students from other community colleges. Trustee Hilton-Gilleo serves on the Strategic Planning Committee and two senate members are part of the Universal Design Committee for the Transformation through Renovation project. Upcoming programs for students include suicide prevention, stress relief with therapy dogs, Winterfest and coat and gloves community service. Trustee Hilton-Gilleo will perform in the upcoming White Christmas performance on campus.

Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Sullivan and seconded by Trustee Dunphy to approve items 1, 2, 3 and 4 on the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Vice Chair Sullivan – yes
Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti – yes
Trustee Dunphy – yes
Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes
Trustee Silvera - yes

The motion passed unanimously.

MPA Updates & Testimonials

Angelina Avedano, President, Massachusetts Professional Association, and other MCCC members provided testimonials on the funding for the FY22 and FY23 faculty union contract collective bargaining.

Presentation of the FY 2023 Draft Financial Statements presented by Withum.

Mr. Michael Cosgrove, Withum, reviewed the FY 2023 draft financial statements with the Audit & Finance committee on November 8 and concluded that the financial statements have an unmodified opinion which is the best opinion you can get on financial statements. There is an internal control audit report that tests the internal controls which was a clean report.

A motion was made by Chair Carroll and seconded by Trustee Dunphy to approve the FY 2023 Draft Financial Statement.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Vice Chair Sullivan – yes
Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti – yes
Trustee Dunphy – yes
Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes
Trustee Silvera - yes

Recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve the transfer of \$4,850,000 from the Citizen's Bank checking account to the investment portfolio managed by CI Eaton Private Wealth.

Vice President Mitchell and Comptroller Marcella recommend moving \$4,850,000 from the college's checking account to the college's investment portfolio. This will allow us to create investment income to rebuild and reinvest it to the College. This was reviewed with the Audit & Finance committee on November 8.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Carroll and seconded by Trustee Dunphy to approve the transfer of \$4,850,000 from the Citizen’s Bank checking account to the investment portfolio managed by CI Eaton Private Wealth

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Vice Chair Sullivan – yes
Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti – yes
Trustee Dunphy – yes
Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes
Trustee Silvera - yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation and recommendation of an expenditure not to exceed \$170,200 for architectural services performed by Massasoit’s House Doctor, DREAM Collaborative, to provide drawings and specifications for relocating the Campus Police Station.

Vice President Mitchell commented that this is a continuation of improvement to modernize and renovate our facility. This renovation of 3,400 square feet will cost \$375 per square foot. We are required by the Commonwealth to do a study and design with an architect and DREAM was chosen. The total cost of the project, excluding this fee, without having detailed designs, is about 1.1 million. Chief Christopher Cummings added that the campus police department has been in the current station since 1993 and the space has many restrictions. Juvenile custody laws prevent contact between juveniles and adults that are being processed in criminal justice situations. This takes additional effort to find vacant meeting spaces on campus. The current office design is post 9/11 best practices. With the new office space, we would be able to increase our student interns and assist with the recruitment and retention of police officers. President DiPasquale recommends the approval of an expenditure not to exceed \$170,200 for architectural services. Vice President Mitchell added that the goal is to come to the board with final numbers of the project in March or April of 2024 with a start date immediately after Commencement and get it completed prior to the opening of the fall semester 2024.

A motion was made by Trustee Silvera and seconded by Trustee Blackler to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$170,200 for architectural services performed by Massasoit’s House Doctor, DREAM Collaborative, to provide drawings and specifications for relocating the Campus Police suite within approximately 3,400 square foot space (former campus bookstore) in the lower level of the Student Center Building on the Massasoit Brockton Campus Trust Fund Guidelines.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Vice Chair Sullivan – yes
Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti – yes
Trustee Dunphy – yes
Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes
Trustee Silvera - yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation and recommendation to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$640,000 over five years for RingCentral MVP Voice-over-IP telephone system.

Chief Information Officer, William Morrison reported that our current telephone system does not provide the capabilities that our faculty and staff need. RingCentral emerged as a platform with the most compelling combination of features at a reasonable cost. It offers robust modern features, advanced quality of service reporting and is highly portable for college employees. It also includes new features such as e-faxing and targeted texting, both of which will expand our ability to send and receive communications from students and the public. Budgeted funds are available with a small increase over our current platform, which will provide much more value for our money. The total project cost covers five years of service, including capacity for growth to support new academic programs and Mass Reconnect.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Sullivan and seconded by Trustee Silvera to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$640,000 over five years for RingCentral MVP Voice-over-IP telephone system.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Vice Chair Sullivan – yes
Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti – yes
Trustee Dunphy – yes
Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes
Trustee Silvera - yes

Presentation and recommendation that the Board of Trustees approve an expenditure not to exceed \$165,000 for an incident response backup solution, including all related professional services for implementation, by William Morrison, Chief Information Officer. (vote needed)

Chief Information Officer, William Morrison reported that institutions, like Massasoit, are popular targets for cyber security threats because of the number of devices we manage, the diversity in computing and the relative freedom that is granted to computer users. According to the 2022 checkpoint research, the education sector has experienced a 114% increase in the number of cyber-attacks over the last two years. Over the last several years, Massasoit has taken necessary steps to improve our cyber security, including requiring multi-factor authentication of all our accounts. Last fiscal year we added 24 by 7, manage and detection and response solution which has been a wonderful addition to our cyber toolkit. The proposal before the Board is aimed at minimizing the impact of a successful attached by employing an immutable air gapped backup and recovery solution. Air gapping a computer is a way of isolating it physically and digitally from any network connection. Once immutability is created, a backup cannot be changed or corrupted by anyone. It remains as clean as the data was created. The total cost of the project includes installation, configuration, licensing, and support for three years. In addition to the college's budgeted funds, the project has been approved for \$66,324 in funds for the Executive Office of Technology Services or about 40% of the project.

A motion was made by Trustee Dunphy and seconded by Vice Chair Sullivan to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$165,000 for an incident response backup solution, including all related professional services for implementation.

Roll Call:

Chair Carroll - yes
Vice Chair Sullivan – yes
Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti – yes
Trustee Dunphy – yes
Trustee Hilton-Gilleo – yes
Trustee Silvera - yes

Other Business:

Vice Chair Sullivan met with the Strategic Planning Committee, which is led by Gail Gibson Sheffield and Lydia Dodson. She invited the board to share any ideas and feedback. Chair Carroll added that this initiative is the roadmap for the future and the perfect opportunity for everyone in the college community to provide input.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Carroll and seconded by Trustee Silvera to adjourn the meeting.

Chair Carroll - yes
Vice Chair Sullivan – yes
Trustee Blackler – yes
Trustee Chakrabarti – yes
Trustee Dunphy – yes
Trustee Hilton-Gileo – yes
Trustee Silvera - yes

The motion passed unanimously.