

**QUINCY COLLEGE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

MEETING OF MAY 15, 2018

Minutes

The meeting of the Quincy College Board of Governors, held in the Hart Board Room, Room 706, 7th Floor, Presidents Place, 1250 Hancock Street, Quincy, Massachusetts, was called to order at 5:30 PM. The member roll was called. The following members of the Board of Governors were present at the call of the member roll: Mr. Thomas Feenan, Chairman of the Board of Governors; Mr. Christopher Bell, First Vice Chair of the Board of Governors; Ms. Barbara Clarke, Second Vice Chair of the Board of Governors; Mr. Paul Barbadoro; Ms. Eileen Bevivino-Lawton; Ms. Mary Jo Brogna; Mr. Christopher Carroll; Dr. Thomas Fitzgerald; Father James Hawker; Ms. Carolyn O'Toole. Absent at the call of the member roll was: Ms. Katherine Craven; Mr. Gregory Hanley; and Mr. Joseph Shea. A quorum was present.

Also present were: Peter H. Tsaffaras, J.D., President and Secretary of the Board of Governors; Dr. Mary Burke, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs; Mr. Joseph Arangio, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance; Mr. Francis Byrne, Advisor to the President; Mr. Tom Pham, Vice President for Information Technology and Mission Support; Mr. Martin Ahern, Director of Finance; Mr. William Hall, Director of Administrative Services and Facilities; as well as other members of the College community and the public.

The pledge of allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was offered.

Chairman Feenan called for the Open Forum portion of the meeting to begin. He invited Peter Tsaffaras to address the Board. Mr. Tsaffaras read a letter which he had sent earlier to Chairman Feenan.

Dear Chairman Feenan:

As you are aware, since assuming the Presidency in January of 2011, I have had a clear vision that Quincy College could not only take its place among its peers but become the very best higher education Institution of its kind. Working together with multiple constituencies of the College community, primarily within but often with partners and allies outside of the bricks and mortar of the campus, we've been able to accomplish many truly great things.

With deference and no hint of criticism towards my predecessors, we have and continue to transform the College toward a learning centered and student centered environment focused primarily on the importance and primacy of the teaching and learning relationship. This tenet, which guided our work, coupled with that of developing an infrastructure to support learning and the need to be mindful of institutional sustainability, form the triad upon which all our decisions and expenditures are based.

Together, we have achieved so much that time does not permit a recitation of the forward progress we have made on so many fronts. For most of us, including me, it is enough to know that we have been able to improve the quality of education in the classroom and the quality of the collegiate experience for our students. Immeasurable, but clearly palpable, is the transformation of culture and esprit de corps which we at Quincy College hold dear.

Despite this progress, beginning last June and continuing through this academic year, I learned that some members of the Board of Governors do not share my vision of the College and its future. This is disheartening even in the good times we have enjoyed, but particularly more so in the challenges which may lie ahead. These actions and this feeling is all the more incongruous as support for my vision and leadership within the College has never been greater, and my recent evaluation was by any account overwhelmingly positive.

Nonetheless, I recognize that the position of President is not a job which I own but a position, which I hold in trust, acting not only as a leader but also as a servant and a fiduciary of the interests of the various constituent groups and the College.

With this perspective in mind the Board of Governors and I agreed on May 3 that I would leave the position of President on June 1, 2018. While this was certainly not my intent in January of 2011, or even in January of 2018, I believe that the fissure and division between the Board of Governors and myself would make it difficult to continue to move forward my agenda and vision for the College. Staying in this position without the support of the Board would not only delay the College's forward progress but also, in ways large and small, have a negative impact upon the students, faculty, staff and administration. As someone who has worked in higher education since June of 1972, just shy of 46 years, I find that alternative to be simply unacceptable.

As you and the other members of the Board of Governors know, recent developments within the academic division of nursing have nothing to do with this decision. In fact, it pains me greatly to be leaving the College I love at this particular time of uncertainty for our nursing students and faculty. I am confident that the plan of action which I have

outlined for the Board, and implemented, and which has already shown demonstrable positive results will lead to nursing programs which have full approval and high passing rates.

Likewise, I regret that I will not be present to continue an ambitious series of initiatives including the fruition of fully online programs, the granting of baccalaureate degrees, continued enhancement of the quality of the student experience, and the building of a permanent home for Quincy College.

Obviously, at a time like this there are far too many people to thank than time would permit. However, I would be negligent if I did not single out my executive team of Dr. Mary Burke, Mr. Francis Byrne, Ms. Kim Howard, Mr. Stephen Kearney, and Mr. Joseph Mercurio, a truly extraordinary team of competent and dedicated professionals. In addition, I would to thank you Mr., Chairman for your friendship and support as well the other members of the Board who have understood and embraced my vision of what Quincy College could become.

I assure you that in the time I have remaining at Quincy College, I will be fully focused on the needs of our students and, Indeed, the College as the academic year comes to a close and we approach commencement just a scant few days away,

*Respectfully,
Peter H. Tsaffaras, J.D.
President of Quincy College*

Mr. Feenan declared the Open Forum portion of the meeting closed.

At 5:45 PM, motion by Mr. Bell that the Board of Governors enter into an executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; as discussion of same in an open and public session may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the College as declared by the Chairman and to reconvene in open session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bevivino-Lawton. There was no discussion on the motion. The following members of the Board of Governors voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Barbadoro; Mr. Bell; Ms. Bevivino-Lawton; Ms. Brogna; Mr. Carroll; Ms. Clarke; Mr. Feenan; Dr. Fitzgerald; Father Hawker; and Ms. O'Toole. There were no votes in opposition to the motion and no abstentions. The motion was adopted and the Board entered into Executive Session.

Mr. Shea arrived at 6:06 PM.

Mr. Feenan resigned and departed during the Executive Session.

At 7:56 PM, motion by Mr. Barbadoro that the Board of Governors adjourn from Executive Session and reconvene in open session for the purpose of adjournment. The motion was seconded by Ms. Brogna. There was no discussion on the motion. The following members of the Board of Governors voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Barbadoro; Mr. Bell; Ms. Bevivino-Lawton; Ms. Brogna; Mr. Carroll; Ms. Clarke; Dr. Fitzgerald; Father Hawker; Ms. O'Toole; and Mr. Shea. There were no votes in opposition to the motion and no abstentions. The motion was adopted and the Board adjourned from Executive Session.

Acting Chair Christopher Bell reported in open session that the President gave notice earlier in the month of his intention to resign his position effective June 01, 2018; the Board voted to put the President on paid administrative leave for the remainder of his employment with the College; Chairman Feenan resigned from the Board of Governors; and Mr. Bell, as First Vice Chair of the Board, took over as Chairman of the Board.

Motion by Mr. Shea that the Board of Governors as governing body of Quincy College pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 135 of the Acts of 2014, hereby designate the Mayor of the City of Quincy to act as the Principle Executive of the College effective immediately, assuming all responsibilities of the President. This designation shall be for a period of not more than six (6) months while due diligence is exercised for a presidential search, unless said six (6) month period is extended by the Board of Governors. The motion was seconded by Mr. Barbadoro. There was no discussion on the motion. The following members of the Board of Governors voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Barbadoro; Mr. Bell; Ms. Bevivino-Lawton; Ms. Brogna; Mr. Carroll; Dr. Fitzgerald; Father Hawker; Ms. O'Toole; and Mr. Shea. Ms. Clarke votes in opposition to the motion. There were no abstentions. The motion was adopted

At 8:01 PM, motion by Mr. Barbadoro to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Governors. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carroll. There was no discussion on the motion. The following members of the Board of Governors voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Barbadoro; Mr. Bell; Ms. Bevivino-Lawton; Ms. Brogna; Mr. Carroll; Ms. Clarke; Dr. Fitzgerald; Father Hawker; Ms. O'Toole; and Mr. Shea. There were no votes in opposition to the motion and no abstentions. The motion was adopted and the meeting was adjourned.