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University of South Carolina
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board of Trustees Annual Retreat
9:00 a.m. Friday, January 19, 2024
Pastides Alumni Center

Friday, January 19, 2024 (Morning Session)

OPEN SESSION

I. Call to Order

Chair Westbrook called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members in attendance:

Thad H. Westbrook, *Board Chair*
Rose Buyck Newton, *Board Vice Chair*
C. Dan Adams
Alex English
Brian C. Harlan
Henry L. Jolly Jr.
Richard A. Jones Jr.
Hubert F. Mobley
E. Scott Moise
Leah B. Moody
Emma W. Morris
Reid T. Sherard
C. Dorn Smith III
Charles Williams

Members absent:

C. Edward Floyd
Miles Loadholt
John C. von Lehe Jr.
Ellen Weaver

Others in attendance:

Wayne Outten, USC Columbia Faculty Senate Chair
Emmie Thompson, USC Columbia Student Government President

Robin Roberts, Advisor to the Advancement, Engagement and Communications Committee
David Seaton, Advisor to the Governance Committee

Administrators in attendance:

Michael Amiridis, President
Cameron Howell, University Secretary and Secretary of the Board of Trustees
Terry Parham, General Counsel
Pam Dunleavy, Chief Audit Executive

Media in attendance:

None

Notice:

Chair Westbrook stated notice of the meeting and agenda had been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act; the agenda and supporting materials had been circulated to the Board; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

II. Informal Governance Discussions with Dr. Peter Eckel

Governance consultant Dr. Peter Eckel facilitated discussions regarding best practices among higher education governing boards.

The discussion was received as information.

III. Adjournment

Chair Westbrook declared the meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Friday, January 19, 2024 (Afternoon Session)

OPEN SESSION

I. Call to Order

Chair Westbrook called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m.

Members in attendance:

Thad H. Westbrook, *Board Chair*
Rose Buyck Newton, *Board Vice Chair*
C. Dan Adams
Alex English
C. Edward Floyd (online)
Brian C. Harlan
Henry L. Jolly Jr.
Richard A. Jones Jr.

Hubert F. Mobley
E. Scott Moise
Leah B. Moody
Emma W. Morris
Reid T. Sherard
C. Dorn Smith III
Ellen Weaver
Charles Williams

Members absent:

Miles Loadholt
John C. von Lehe Jr.

Others in attendance:

Wayne Outten, USC Columbia Faculty Senate Chair
Emmie Thompson, USC Columbia Student Government President
Robin Roberts, Advisor to the Advancement, Engagement and Communications Committee
David Seaton, Advisor to the Governance Committee

Administrators in attendance:

Michael Amiridis, President
Cameron Howell, University Secretary and Secretary of the Board of Trustees
Donna Arnett, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Terry Parham, General Counsel
Ed Walton, Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer

Media in attendance:

David Cloninger, the *Post & Courier* (online)
Alan Cole, GamecockScoop.com (online)
Alexa Jurado, the *State*
Jordan Kaye, the *State* (online)
Hale McGranahan, the *Big Spur* (online)
Jack Veltri, GamecockCentral.com (online)
John Whittle, the *Big Spur* (online)

Notice:

Chair Westbrook stated notice of the meeting and agenda had been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act; the agenda and supporting materials had been circulated to the Board; and a quorum was present to conduct business.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Westbrook stated there was a need for an Executive Session to discuss the employment of an assistant football coach, to receive legal advice regarding a bond resolution, and to discuss the employment of a Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer.

Dr. Smith made the motion to enter Executive Session, and Mr. Mobley seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Chair Westbrook invited the following to remain: Trustees, Dr. Outten, Ms. Thompson, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Seaton, President Amiridis, Secretary Howell, Dr. Arnett, Ms. Dunleavy, Dr. Eckel, Fritz, Ms. Kibler, Mr. Miller, Mr. Parham, Mr. Sobieralski, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Walton, and Board support staff.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

– Executive Session Removed

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

III. Approval of Athletics Employment Agreement

Mr. Parham presented the terms of the following Athletics employment agreement:

– Assistant Football Coach Marquel Blackwell

Dr. Jolly made a motion to approve the Athletics employment agreement as presented. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

IV. Approval of Chief Information Officer Employment Agreement

Ms. Newton made a motion to approve the employment agreement for John Brice Bible Jr. as presented by President Amiridis in Executive Session. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

V. Informal Discussions: Master Facilities Planning Process

– USC System Institutional Master Facilities Planning Process

A. USC Aiken Master Facilities Plan

Chancellor Dan Heimmermann presented the USC Aiken master facilities plan.

The presentation was received as information.

B. Palmetto College Master Facilities Plan

Chancellor Susan Elkins presented the Palmetto College master facilities plan.

The presentation was received as information.

VI. Presentation from USC Columbia Student Body President

USC Columbia Student Body President Emmie Thompson presented to the Board.

The presentation was received as information.

VII. Introduction from Board Chair Thad Westbrook

Chair Westbrook stated that part of the Board's fiduciary responsibility includes governance and approval of University property and facility plans. In order for Trustees to serve the University effectively, it is appropriate for the President and senior administration to keep the Board up to date on the master facilities planning process. He stated the Board would spend time over the remainder of the retreat engaging with the President, senior administration, and master planning consultants from Sasaki.

Chair Westbrook emphasized that it would not be possible or feasible for the University of South Carolina to pursue all options presented. The informal discussions entertained during the retreat were a necessary ingredient in a long, deliberate process that will be formalized as a plan at a later date.

VIII. President Michael Amiridis and EVP/CFO Ed Walton Introduce Sasaki

President Amiridis stated that potential plans presented over the remainder of the retreat were in the formative stage and would change significantly. Mr. Walton introduced Greg Havens and Marianne Quirk with Sasaki.

IX. Sasaki: Overview of USC Columbia Master Facilities Planning Process

Greg Havens and Marianne Quirk with Sasaki presented an overview of the master facilities planning process.

The presentation was received as information.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Westbrook stated there was a need for an Executive Session to discuss negotiations incident to a proposed purchase of property, and to discuss a proposed contractual arrangement with an engineering firm attendant to a property development.

Dr. Smith made the motion to enter Executive Session, and Mr. Adams seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

– Executive Session Removed

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

X. Adjournment

Chair Westbrook declared the meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cameron Howell
Secretary