



PROCEEDINGS
OF
GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OFFICIAL
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD LIBRARY
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Meeting called to order at 9:01 a.m., Bert Bleke in the chair.

A. Present: Bailey, Bristol, James, Koetje, Stewart, Verburg, & Bleke – 7

II. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

B. Deliberate & Select GRCC's 10th President. Chairperson Bleke first asked each Trustee to name their top candidate, all six Trustees named Dr. Bill Pink as their top choice. Chairperson Bleke then called for a motion.

- Motion made by Trustee James, second by Trustee Verburg, roll call vote. Motion carries – 7.

III. OPEN COMMENT

C. Comments from community members & student alliance - Ms. Margo Anderson, Mr. CJ Shroll, Ms. Bev Drake, Joe Jones, Paul, and Maleny Crespo spoke all in support of naming Dr. Bill Pink the next President.

IV. FINAL BOARD COMMENTS

Newly elected Kenyatta Brame and Kathleen Bruinsma will assume their seats in January were asked to speak as they also have been part of the deliberations. Both Kathleen and

Kenyatta expressed that Dr. Pink stood out amongst an impressive group of candidates and found him most qualified and engaging, therefore he was their top candidate.

Trustee Bristol said she felt good about each candidate being fairly assessed and expressed her excitement, looking forward to the future with Dr. Pink.

Trustee Koetje stated he understands one of the next steps will be proving that the Board made the right decision and he accepts that challenge, as he is as thrilled as Kathleen Bruinsma and Kenyatta Brame.

Trustee James shared she had no idea what the rest of the trustees were thinking in terms of who their top candidate was and as each trustee named Dr. Pink as their top candidate “it was magical”. She went on to thank Dr. Ender for the work he has done over the past 8 years and quoted Joe Jones with his statement of “heavy lifting” Dr. Ender has done over these years in order to get the institution to the place it is today, as he has made it all possible.

Trustee Verburg thanked all those that voted him in over the past three terms. Going on to say it was a great experience being part of hiring Dr. Juan Olivarez as the first Hispanic President and now being part of hiring Dr. Bill Pink as the first African American President at the institution.

Trustee Stewart said because of Dr. Ender’s outstanding leadership he will leave the institution in a good place to move forward as Dr. Pink takes over. As the nation is facing big challenges he sees a man taking over that has the character that is needed. Stewart went on to say that as they “move onward with shoulders to the wheel”, the trustees will help in any way they can to support Dr. Pink.

Trustee Bailey said she feels Dr. Ender was the right leader for his time and Dr. Pink is the right leader for these times. She thanked everyone that participated in the selection process as it was a lot of time to invest. Bailey also reminded everyone the process was not over as step 6, the transition process will be just as important as the previous steps.

Chairperson Bleke said he was happy that step 5 was complete and thanked everyone’s hard work. He also said when systems are left to their own devices they usually don’t make great transitions, reiterating how important step 6 will be. Bleke went on to thank Dr. Ender for the great job he has done over the past 8 years in regards to what a great place he has left the institution in, stating “there is a strong foundation for Dr. Bill to build upon”.