



## **Governance Committee Meeting**

CCSNH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting of March 18, 2021

**Attending** (*teleconference/ videoconference*): Trustee Robert Baines, Trustee Hollie Noveletsky, Trustee Kathy Bogle Shields, CCSNH Chancellor Susan Huard, NHTI President Gretchen Mullin-Sawicki, Shannon Reid (CCSNH), Tim Allison (CCSNH), RVCC President Williams, LRCC President Baia, MCC President Bicknell, NCC President Jordan

**Regrets:** Trustee Megan Elwell

Chair Baines called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm. Regarding the conduct of a telephonic meeting and counting all members toward the quorum requirement whether or not physically present in the meeting location, the Chair declared an emergency meeting in order to follow social distancing guidelines related to the current public health crisis, pursuant to RSA 91-A: 2 (III)(b).

### Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2020

**VOTE:** The Committee, on motion of President Mullin-Sawicki and seconded by Ms. Noveletsky voted unanimously by roll call to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2020 meetings as written.

### Updates on Board Membership and the Board Self-Assessment Survey

Mr. Baines reported that new trustee appointments, the board's bi-annual self-survey, and the new trustee mentor program have been paused, pending the outcome of the Governor's proposal to merge the USNH and CCSNH boards.

### 2021 Workplan

The committee reviewed the 2021 workplan, which carried over the same objectives from the 2020 workplan and added two new goals promoting diversity and enhanced board engagement.

### Board Diversity Statement

**VOTE:** The Committee, on motion of President Mullin-Sawicki and seconded by Ms. Noveletsky voted unanimously to approve the board diversity statement as revised.

### Governor's Proposal to Merge the CCSNH/ USNH Boards

The committee discussed the Governor's proposal to combine the CCSNH and USNH boards. The new board would include five members from USNH, five members from CCSNH, five external members appointed by the Governor, and eight ex-officio members.

The committee discussed the qualities and expectations of the board's nominees to the new board, as well as the nomination process.

Discussion followed regarding possible elements of the process the committee would administer to nominate trustees to the new board, including:



- Use a process similar to the one used to develop the annual slate of officers.
- Ask trustees who self-nominate to respond to questions surrounding availability and ability to commit to the charge of the new board, and knowledge and understanding of the work and mission of CCSNH.
- Ask trustees to identify a team of people from the board who they believe could best support the mission of the new board while retaining a strong interest in the community colleges. If more than one team is proposed, teams will be asked to do presentation that would be followed by a vote for the final team selected.
- Identify the critical areas that must be well represented on the new board, and the trustees who are best suited to advocate for those needs.

President Jordan joined the meeting at 4:42 pm.

The committee discussed the areas that USNH Chair Morone recently presented as opportunities for cost savings, including academic redundancies and regional redundancies in the north, west, and south-central.

#### Other Business

Chancellor Huard reported that the Business and Industry Association (BIA) recently endorsed the proposed merger following a meeting with USNH representatives.

No further business was brought forward. The meeting adjourned at 5:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Eckner  
Executive Assistant to the Chancellor and Board of Trustees