

**COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD**

**SPECIAL MEETING
ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**

FEBRUARY 13, 2017



**COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING AND ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION
OF THE
DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
FEBRUARY 13, 2017**

A Special Meeting and Round Table Discussion of the Coconino Community College District Governing Board was held in the Board Room at the Lone Tree Campus at 2800 S. Lone Tree Road, Flagstaff, Arizona 86005. Board Chair, Ms. Patricia Garcia, called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

PRESENT: Patricia Garcia
Lloyd Hammonds
Patrick Hurley
Marie Peoples
Nat White

ABSENT: None

Also Present: Dr. Colleen Smith, CCC President; Mr. Keith Becker, Dr. Dudley Gardner, Mr. Brian Harris, Mr. Larry Hendricks, Ms. Veronica Hipolito, Mr. Doug King, Mr. Jeff Jones, Dr. Michael Merica, Ms. April Sandoval, Mr. Kurt Stull, Mr. Scott Talboom, and Ms. Jami Van Ess.

Reports, summaries, background material and other documents referred to in these minutes can be found in the February 13, 2017 documents file.

Follow Up
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None

Important Dates	
February 22, 2017	DGB Meeting
March 22, 2017	DGB Meeting
April 28, 2017	Palette to Palate

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Review Mission and Vision

Dr. Colleen Smith reviewed the College’s mission, vision, core values, purpose, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) criteria related to the College Mission, and HLC’s response to our Assurance Argument in Spring 2017. Additional topics discussed included the following:

- The Board should make a decision to reaffirm, or revise the Mission and Vision on a regular schedule. This review should be conducted before the next HLC review and at the start of each strategic plan.

- The group discussed the ways the College has found to focus on the College's Core Values and made suggestions for how to revise the Mission, Vision, Purpose, and Core Values. Some of the suggested revisions focused on incorporating retention and completion as well as strengthening the language related to economic development.
- The College and Board should think about framing the Mission and Vision in an aspirational way and should look for ways to present the College to the community in a positive, upbeat approach instead of from the perspective of not being able to afford new programs and services.
- There is a danger in trying to find one informational document that works for everyone. Dr. Marie Peoples suggested considering creating one document for the College and expanding to additional documents as needed while being consistent in areas like mission, vision, purpose and core values across all documents.
- The College should shift from telling everyone about the College to trying to meet community needs. There should be an effort to figure out what the community really wants.
- There is a need to find ways to make sure the College is relevant to the community. The College should point out our successes to the community to encourage them to support us.
- The College does not have the funding for highly visible programs that might encourage County support.
- The College needs to figure out different ways of providing training than are currently being used. There is a need for training in the community but the College may not be providing the programs and/or the length of programs needed.
- There is a need to strive for educational excellence, for strategies for offering programs that are nimble enough to adjust to changes in the economy, and to change programs and services to be relevant to the community.
- The College should look back to the class schedules from the early 1990's and 2000's to see how course offerings have changed.
- The College should offer a free college study skills course to help students manage the demands of college and prepare students to be successful. Another suggestion to bring in more students was to lower tuition.
- One way to bring the community back to the College would be to go back to renting out our facilities to community members.
- Programs like the senior discount could be added back in to encourage more enrollment.
- The College should consider removing the charge for auditing classes.
- Another idea to bring more students in would be to offer Free Fridays on one Friday per month that would offer afternoon and evening classes to the community for free.
- The College should also consider adding back in low cost, community focused non-credit classes.
- Instead of completing capital replacements on a schedule, the College should consider only doing them when needed.

Future Direction
Financial

The Board has been receiving a lot of information on financial matters through the budget building process. Dr. Smith highlighted a handout that compares the cost of living to salaries in each county in Arizona. The College is about eighth (out of ten) for salaries in the state and that ranking does not address the differential cost of living in Flagstaff. The College continues to get further behind in salaries and at some point this issue will have to be addressed as lower salaries have impacted our ability to hire quality employees.

Dr. Nat White feels that the Board should start today and commit to a 2018 bond override that would continue the current level of property taxes. His perception is that the College has lost some momentum in community support since the election. A review of the 2007 election stated that override efforts should begin 18 months to 2 years prior to an override effort.

Dr. Marie Peoples suggest that the College needs to recognize the current political climate, the public's feelings around education, who is willing to pay for education, and who should be educated. With the current political climate, this may not be the time to ask the community for additional money.

It may be difficult to pass an override after the next general election as the community would perceive an override as a tax increase rather than a continuation.

There is a need to build community relationships and improve customer service to change the community perception of the College whether or not there is another override effort.

Dr. Smith spoke about the salary and benefits presentation at the next Board meeting and let the Board know that the presentation may have a different format than in the past.

The staff members that attended this event thanked the Board for putting this meeting together and the Board's participation in the discussion this evening.

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Ms. April Sandoval
Board Recorder

Mr. Lloyd Hammonds
Vice Chair/Secretary of the Board

Ms. Patricia Garcia
Board Chair