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Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes 1994-06-10

Bowling Green State University

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Notice having been given in accordance with the Board of Trustees Bylaws, the following members met in the Assembly Room of McFall Center, Bowling Green Campus on June 10, 1994: C. Ellen Connally, Chair; John A. Laskey, Vice-Chair; David A. Bryan; Delbert L. Latta; Valerie L. Newell; Thomas W. Noe; Kermit Stroh.

Also present were Acting President Eloise E. Clark; Dorothy Behling, Chair, Faculty Senate, and 1994-95 Faculty Representative to the Board; David Vaillancourt, 1994-95 Graduate Student Representative to the Board; Jennifer Mathe, 1994-95 Undergraduate Student Representative to the Board; Judith Allton, 1994-95 Firelands College Representative to the Board; Pat Green, 1994-95 Administrative Staff Representative to the Board; Ron Zwierlein, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs; and media representatives.

Chair Connally called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.; the roll was taken and a quorum was present (seven Trustees).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Connally announced that in keeping with the provisions of the state's "sunshine law" and Amended Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, she proposed that members meet in an executive session for the purpose of considering a public employment matter. She requested that members meet in executive session in the Chart Room with the session expected to last approximately 10 minutes; the regular meeting to be reconvened at that time to take action if necessary and for the purposes of adjournment.

No. 58-94 Mr. Noe moved and Mr. Bryan seconded that members of the Board of Trustees meet in an executive session to consider a public employment matter.

A roll call vote was conducted with the following results: Voting "yes"-- Mr. Bryan, Judge Connally, Mr. Laskey, Mr. Latta, Ms. Newell, Mr. Noe, Mr. Stroh. The motion was approved with seven affirmative votes.

The regular meeting recessed at 1:40 p.m. and the members moved to the Chart Room for executive session.

Chair Connally reconvened the regular meeting at 1:50 p.m. and announced that members had met in executive session for 10 minutes for the purpose of considering a public employment matter. No formal action was taken.

Chair Connally read the following statement on the upcoming presidential search process.

(A) An ad hoc committee of the Board has recently interviewed representatives from four national/international search consultation firms and has informed the full Board of its views about the relative strengths and weaknesses of those firms. In response, the Board has decided to employ SpencerStuart Executive Search Consultants to assist it in the search for the next president of Bowling Green State University.
In keeping with the Board's desire to keep the University community fully informed about the process, the Board has also reached some tentative conclusions about an ideal timeline for the search. Typically, presidential searches in American higher education begin in late September or October and are concluded in April or May. This Board wishes to place itself a bit ahead of that schedule, if possible. Therefore, an ideal timeline would aim at beginning the search, with the placing of appropriate advertisement, etc., in mid- to late August, 1994 and would aim at completing the search by early to mid-March, 1995. We cannot guarantee that this timeline will be followed exactly, but it represents our goal at this point in time. In the meantime, we hope that interested members of the University community will begin to think about individuals who might be strong candidates for the presidency. We hope to accumulate the best possible pool of applicants and nominees once the search begins officially in the fall.

To place the University in a position to meet the ideal timeline described above, it is necessary to begin two different aspects of the process almost immediately.

1. Nomination of Candidates for the Search Committee. Very soon the Board will issue invitations to several groups on campus asking each of them to nominate four or five candidates for possible membership on the search committee. Those groups will include the following, but may include others as well: Faculty Senate, Administrative Staff Council, Classified Staff Council, Undergraduate Student Government, Graduate Student Senate, the Alumni Association, and the BGSU Foundation.

   In addition, the Board may nominate additional candidates from among these and other groups holding an important stake in the welfare of the University.

   It is particularly important that the search committee membership be appropriately diverse in terms of gender and ethnicity. Each group should have that goal in mind as it develops its list of nominees.

   The Board will choose the members of the search committee from among its own membership and from the nominees provided by the process outlined above.

2. Development of a "Leadership Statement". Very shortly, the Trustees will also issue an invitation to the groups listed in #1 above, to other interested groups or units and to concerned individuals asking them to assist the Board in the development of what is variously called a "leadership statement," "position specification" or "job description." This "statement" is a very important part of the search process because it defines the goals for the search and provides reasonably specific guidelines for both the search committee and the Board to follow in pursuing the search.

   The Board would like to have input from all those who are interested about the directions/goals the University should pursue during the course of the next decade and about the critical qualities that the next president of the University should have in order to effectively lead the institution toward those directions or goals.
It is very likely that SpencerStuart will also assist the Board in conducting direct interviews with critical constituent groups and others as part of the process of developing a "leadership statement."

The task we are undertaking will not be a simple one, but with the help and support of all university groups, we will be successful in selecting the best person to guide this great university into the 21st century.

Mr. Noe moved and Mr. Laskey seconded that the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees approves and issues the above statement on the upcoming presidential search process.

The Board Secretary conducted a roll call vote with the following results: Voting "yes"—Mr. Bryan, Judge Connally, Mr. Laskey, Mr. Latta, Ms. Newell, Mr. Noe, Mr. Stroh. The motion was approved with seven affirmative votes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.