MINUTES of the February 10, 2015, meeting of the OCC Foundation Board of Directors

Board Members Present
Robert Allesee
Richard Berkfield
Brian Carney
Vince DeLeonardis
Jan Dolan
Lee Green
Peter Karadjoff
Deborah Niemer
David Ong
Randy Ston
Thomas Sullivan
Bill Wildern

Board Members Absent
Antoine Joubert
Shirley Bryant
Maureen Krauss
Don Schiemann

Ex-Officio Present
Carol Furlong
Tim Meyer

Others in Attendance
Julie Burley
Candy Geeter
Sharon Miller

I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by David Ong at 4:34 p.m. at the Doris Mosher Foundation House.

Approval of Minutes:
David Ong asked if there were any changes to the Minutes of November 11, 2014. None were offered; a motion by Bob Allesee and seconded by Tom Sullivan to approve the minutes. The minutes were unanimously passed.

II. Treasurer’s Report
Tom Sullivan reviewed the 2nd quarter reports. An updated treasurer’s report was passed out prior to the meeting.

III. New Reporting Structure for Foundation Director
Dave Ong reported that the executive board had been meeting with the Chancellor on how to best facilitate the separation of the Foundation and College. Carol Furlong will now report directly to the Foundation Board’s Governance Committee regarding responsibilities and issues. The Chancellor will sign her pay and expense reports. This move is to help take the Foundation into the future.
Dave Ong also reported that he and the Chancellor have been working together and are close to completing the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding), which will reflect the new reporting changes at the Foundation.

IV. Governance Committee (Nominating Committee)
Vince DeLeonardis reminded everyone that in September they asked for a continuance until the Executive Director was hired before renewing the three Board Members expiring terms. The three board members are Brian Carney, Thomas Sullivan and William Wildern whose terms expired September 2014. Vince made a motion to renew the terms of Brian Carney, Thomas Sullivan and
William Wildern through September 2017. Randy Ston seconded this motion and it was approved by all.

Randy Ston made a motion to extend the Executive Member’s terms which also expired in September 2014 to be extended until September 2015. The Executive Board is:

Chair- Dave Ong  
Vice-Chair- Brian Carney  
Treasurer- Tom Sullivan  
Secretary- Don Schiemann

The motion was seconded by Bob Allesee and it passed unanimously.

Foundation Board Committees:

The Finance & Audit Committee which will be chaired by Tom Sullivan with Bill Wildern.

The Governance Committee will include the Executive Board, Richard Berkfield and Vince DeLeonardis.

Bob Allesee made the motion to support these committees and the board members indicated. This was approved by all.

The Governance Committee will also interface with the Executive Director on the MOU and will work with the college. The Governance Committee will also work on updating the By-Laws to bring them up to date; they will be ready for a vote and approval at the May 2015 board meeting. Dave Ong reported that they are working on having a smaller number of committees moving forward.

V. Chancellor’s Report

- The Chancellor thanked the Executive Committee for their time and effort spent working on the MOU. He has been meeting with Dave Ong and appreciates the time that has gone into the MOU, he feels that after careful review he is comfortable at this junction to recast the Foundation focus.
- The Chancellor discussed how the enrollment changes from the high in 2010 to now and how unemployment for Oakland County is at 5.5%, with 5% being considered full employment. He discussed the Obama/federal government expressing free community college for everyone. The reality is there is no free college.
- The Chancellor stated that with the MOU the direction of the Foundation is in the hands of the board members.
- He wonders how the scholarships can be more strategically placed.
- He discussed the purchase of property in Southfield and the implosion of the building which was held in December 2014. The Foundation received $8,000 from the highest bidder for the right to “push the plunger”. We then watched the video of the implosion.
VI. Foundation/Comprehensive Campaign Updates

- Carol Furlong discussed the comprehensive campaign and needing to get the word out that OCC is a gem for the community.
- The Gala will be held on November 7th, at Oakland Hills Country Club. We will be recognizing those who donated and honor those who helped launch OCC. The college needs to identify programs to enhance. The Co-Chairs of the Gala are Julie Camden, wife of Carl Camden- CEO of Kelly Services, and Doyle & Cindi Mosher. Carol plans on focusing on the type of support OCC needs in order to ask for support.
- An internal feasibility study is in the progress, trying to identify donors who already have a connection to OCC. The office is also working on the golf outing and scholarship luncheon. The Garden Party is to be held in June with OCC Culinary receiving 50% of the proceeds.
- The Annual Appeal was a success and Carol thanked Sharon Miller and her team for the hard work they put into it. Carol is looking forward to the new direction, values and strategies that are being considered.
- Gala information: a VIP reception at 6:00pm with the start time at 7:00pm. Bob Allessee volunteered to play the piano; he is also a member at Oakland Hills and is happy to help in any way. It will be “Black Tie Optional” event. Capacity at Oakland Hills is 325 with tables of 10. Carol discussed each board member sponsoring a table with options on how to achieve that. Dignitaries would be invited; the Governor, Senators, Representatives and Brooks Patterson. Sponsorships will start at $25,000.

VII. New Business and Announcements

- Dave Ong spoke about the MOU being ready for ratification at the May Foundation Board Meeting.
- Dave will report to the full board on what is happening at the Foundation, he want to energize the board.
- Sharon Miller spoke about a 50th Celebration that will be a separate event for employees on Thursday, May 28th coinciding with the Great Lakes/Great Wine event held annually at OR, being affordable for all employees.
- Sharon stated that her goal is to have OCC in the media for the 50 days leading up to the Gala, either paid or free. She is working with Marketing to create an advertising campaign, using high profile people.
- Dave Ong mentioned wanting to talk to Rick Nahm about the comprehensive campaign, the Gala is not the conclusion but a jumping off point. The silent phase was discussed and how we can change the focus to looking forward.
- Deborah Niemer spoke about the wonderful event the Garden Party is and hopes all will attend.
- Randy Ston commented on how to use the money for the college other than scholarships.
- Sharon Miller informed the board about a community college who is thinking out of the box to garner awareness of their college by hosting a gaming competition.
- Richard Berkfield asked about OCC Alumni and how they will be contacted.
- Carol talked about getting people proud to be from OCC “Look at me, I’m OCC”
Chancellor Meyer reported over 1,000,000 student’s have come through our doors and how to identify them.

Sharon Miller invited all Board members to attend the 2015 Commencement to be held on May 30th at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

VIII. Adjourn

The Board Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Julie Burley