

(Approved at January 18-19, 2024 Board of Trustees Meetings)

**COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON  
UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON, SC**

Board of Trustees Special Meeting  
Randolph Hall Boardroom/Zoom Video Conference  
November 15, 2023  
10:30 a.m.

Presiding:

Renée Romberger, Chair, Board of Trustees

**Board Members in Person** – Trustees Renée Romberger (chair) and Beth Burke

**Board Members Participating via Zoom Video Conference** – Trustees Laurin Burch, John Busch, Demetria Clemons, Hank Futch, Andy Gianoukos, Henrietta Golding, David Hay, Shawn Holland, Penny Rosner, Brian Stern, Tav Swarat, Craig Thornton, Ricci Welch, Neysa Williams and John Wood

**Board Members Absent** – Trustees Toya Pound and Steve Swanson

**Other Attendees in Person** – Chuck Baker, Mark Berry, Joh-nette Brown, Alicia Caudill, Betty Craig, Dan Frezza, Elizabeth Kassebaum, John Loonan, John Morris and Paul Patrick

**Other Attendees Participating via Zoom Video Conference** – Jimmie Foster and Ron Menchaca

**Other Attendees Absent** – Suzanne Austin

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Romberger called the meeting to order at 10:29 a.m. noting that the meeting notice has been posted and the press notified as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**The motion was made by Trustee Beth Burke, and seconded by Trustee Ricci Welch, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of “Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed purchase/lease of property” and “Discussion of trade secrets where public disclosure would expose commercially valuable plans, marketing services, and competitive information.” All in favor.**

*(Only the Board Members, President Hsu, President’s Cabinet, Board and IT Staff remained for Executive Session.)*

**The motion was made by Trustee Ricci Welch, and seconded by Trustee Beth Burke, to come out of Executive Session and resume regular session. All in favor.**

Chair Romberger noted that no action was taken in Executive Session.

**MOTION REGARDING A POSSIBLE NEW RESIDENCE HALL PROJECT**

Chair Romberger asked for a motion regarding a possible new residence hall.

In response, Trustee Beth Burke stated, “**Student success, as measured by retention and graduate rates, is directly impacted by the residential living experience. The College of Charleston has much more demand than its current housing inventory can satisfy. With the rising costs of**

housing in the greater Charleston region, it is imperative the university offer more affordable, on-campus residential opportunities to its students so that the university maintains and increases academic persistence.

The Board of Trustees recognizes and thanks the College of Charleston Foundation for prioritizing the effort to establish more residential beds on the downtown campus. To that end, the Board of Trustees moves that the Board supports the College of Charleston Foundation's efforts in securing the exclusive development rights and property options for the parcels at 99 St. Philip and 106 Coming Streets on behalf of the College.

The Board of Trustees further directs the Administration to support the Foundation Board in any way possible to secure these rights and options and to begin the necessary approval processes for the College of Charleston to assume the development and acquisition responsibility from the Foundation. The Board of Trustees will make this project and its funding a priority for the 2024/2025 fiscal year budget.”

Chair Romberger asked for a second and Secretary Ricci Welch seconded the motion. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was approved. Trustee John Wood abstained from voting.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

The motion was made by Trustee Beth Burke, and seconded by Trustee Henrietta Golding, that the meeting be adjourned at 11:28 a.m. All in favor.