

(Approved at April 11-12, 2024 Board of Trustees Meetings)

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

Board of Trustees Special Meeting  
Zoom Video Conference  
February 20, 2024  
4:00 p.m.

Presiding:  
Renée Romberger, Chair, Board of Trustees

**Board Members Participating via Zoom Video Conference** – Trustees Renée Romberger (chair), Beth Burke, Laurin Burch, John Busch, Demetria Clemons, Hank Futch, Andy Gianoukos, David Hay, Shawn Holland, Toya Pound, Penny Rosner, Brian Stern, Steve Swanson, Tav Swarat, Craig Thornton, Ricci Welch and Neysa Williams

**Board Members Absent** – Trustees Henrietta Golding and John Wood

**Other Attendees Participating via Zoom Video Conference** – President Andrew Hsu, Suzanne Austin, Chuck Baker, Mark Berry, Joh-nette Brown, Alicia Caudill, Betty Craig, Dan Frezza, Elizabeth Kassebaum, John Loonan, Ron Menchaca and Paul Patrick

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Romberger called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.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 Ricci Welch, and seconded by Trustee Beth Burke, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of “Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed purchase/lease of property” and “Consideration of Candidates’ Qualifications for Commencement Speakers and Candidates’ Qualifications for Honorary Degrees.” 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 at 4:48 p.m. and resume regular session. All in favor.**

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

**MOTION AFFIRMING NOVEMBER 2023 MOTION RE CAMPUS HOUSING**

**The motion was made by Trustee Beth Burke, and seconded by Trustee Penny Rosner, that the Board of Trustees affirms its November 2023 motion that increasing on-campus housing is a top institutional priority. The Board thanks the College of Charleston Foundation for its continued partnership and support on this critical effort. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was approved.**

**Previous Motion – November 15, 2023 Board of Trustees Special Meeting**

“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.”

**MOTION TO APPROVE CANDIDATE D AS MAY 2024 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER**

**The motion was made by Trustee Ricci Welch, and seconded by Trustee Burke, to approve Candidate D as the May 2024 Commencement Speaker at the Saturday morning ceremony. The Chair called for the yeas and nays, and the motion was approved.**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**The motion was made by Trustee Ricci Welch, and seconded by Trustee Penny Rosner, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:51 p.m. All in favor.**