State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Board of Trustees Governance Committee Meeting
September 20, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.
24 Marshall Hall

MINUTES

Voting Members in Attendance:

Chair Vita DeMarchi, Trustee William Fisher

Absent: Adriana Espinoza

Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

Trustee John Bartow, Trustee Linda Brown-Robinson, Trustee Rick Fedrizzi, Trustee Daniel Fitts, Trustee OJ McFoy.

College Personnel/Students in Attendance:

Joanne Mahoney (*President),* Ragan Squier *(Secretary to the Board*), Kelly Berger, Tyler Dorholt, Nichole Dougherty, Eden Gardner, Brenda Greenfield, Susan Head, Matt Millea, Mark Lichtenstein, Samuel Mukasa, Aaron Rounds, Lindi Quackenbush, Baylee Woods, Michele McNeill, Gary Scott, Sarah Yurka.

Call to Order, Roll Call and Welcome

Chair DeMarchi called the meeting of the ESF Board of Trustees Governance Committee to order at 9:06 a.m. With two voting members of the Governance Committee present, in-person, a quorum was confirmed.

- Proposed to have the committee meeting annually, in February.
- Noted that all Trustees are members of the Association of Council Members and College Trustees (ACT). There is a meeting next week in Saratoga and still time to attend.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the January 26, 2023 Governance Committee Meeting.
Trustee Fisher motioned to approve the minutes; Trustee DeMarchi seconded. Motion carried.

2. Review and Approval of Bylaws
Reviewed standing committees and charges.

- Reviewed format of committee meetings and charge of each committee and recurring meeting structure.
- Reviewed Ad Hoc Committees.

- Nearby Roundabout Committee staff Liaison, Mark Lichtenstein, working with DOT representatives for updates.
- It was requested that Trustees review responsibilities and ACT handbook.
- Trustee terms were discussed:
    - Terms are an issue among all SUNY's.
    - New appointments require approval by the governor.
    - Trustees can serve under expired term or until re-appointed.
    - Quorum will be based on number of active trustees, not seats available.

Trustee Fisher motioned to approve the resolution to approve the Bylaws. Trustee Brown-Robinson seconded. E. Gardner asked about President as Chair of Academic Governance, confirmed that President is the Executive Chair. All in favor.

3. Review of 2023 Trustee Self-Evaluation Results and Discussion:
Will complete the self-evaluation again in January and will review results in an executive session. Discussion of Forestry missing from discussions of the College as commented in a self-eval.

4. Old Business

4.1. Review and Approval of Governance Committee Charter
Trustee Fitts motioned to approve the Governance Committee Charter as presented. Trustee Fisher seconded, motion carries.

5. New Business
Chair DeMarchi noted that there is a policy on public participation at Board meetings**,** the process of presenting agenda items ahead of time allows for good governance and effectiveness. Trustee Fisher noted that participation is encouraged from all stakeholders. Trustee Fisher would like to establish the nominating committee as an ad hoc committee, proposed Trustee Fitts serve as chair, Trustee DeMarchi and Trustee Fisher serve on Committee. The Nominating Committee will report to full Board at the next meeting.

Adjournment
Trustee Bartow motioned to adjourn; Trustee McFoy seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nichole Dougherty.