

## Public Session Minutes

The meeting of the Morgan State University Board of Regents was called to order by Chairman Kweisi Mfume at 12:42 pm.

**Present:** Hon. Kweisi Mfume, Chairman; Rev. Dr. Frances M. Draper, Vice Chair; Hon. Congressman Elijah E. Cummings, Regent; General (Ret.) Larry R. Ellis; Regent, Dr. Linda J. Gilliam, Regent; Dr. Shirley M. Malcom, Regent; Ms. Sarai A. Nwagbaraocha, Student Regent; Ms. Tracey Parker-Warren, Regent; Mr. Martin R. Resnick, Regent; Ms. Shelonda Stokes, Regent; Mrs. Penelope J. Taylor, Regent; Mr. Winston Wilkinson, Regent; Dr. David Wilson, University President; Mr. Thomas Faulk, Principal Counsel for Morgan State University, Office of the Attorney General

**Absent:** Dr. Tyrone Taborn, Secretary

The Chairman referenced the agenda and stated that following the Public Session, the Board would convene in Closed Session to address the matters identified on the agenda.

### Approval of Minutes

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 3, 2015 Board meeting. It was MOVED by Regent Cummings and SECONDED by Regent Gilliam to approve the minutes of November 3, 2015. THE MOTION CARRIED.

### Chairman's Report

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the Regents and the public. Dr. Banks asks to be recognized from the floor. He asked for permission to have a few concerned students voice their opinion about the security matters occurring around campus. Chairman Mfume yielded the floor to the students. The students spoke to the matter of the death of a student at Morgan View and the need to ensure the safety and security of all students. They said that their parents send them to the institution to be safe, and they wanted the school to understand that their safety must be a priority. The said that they were upset by the death and wanted to be sure that the university and the Board address their concerns, fears and apprehensions.

The Chairman thanked the students for their leadership and for attending the meeting to voice their concerns. He said that collectively, as a Board, we mourn of the loss of the student. He said that the best thing he could do is to yield the floor to our Board Vice Chairman Draper to speak to everyone. She is the family of the young man that was killed. The Chair recognized Vice Chair Draper. Regent Draper spoke about the loss of her family member. She thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers during this

difficult time in her family. She said it is incumbent upon the university to make the environment safer.

The Chairman said, “We do not have words adequate enough to address this situation.” This is very difficult for all of us. He thanked the students again. Dr. Banks stated that he has a meeting with Dr. Wilson this evening to discuss this further. The Chairman reminded the students that the Board holds open door board meetings and reiterated that they were welcome to attend any time.

He stated that we would now resume the regular order of the meeting as outlined on the agenda.

The Chairman asked that Regents Nwagbaraocha, Stokes and Walker introduce themselves to the full Board again officially. The all provided key biographical information related to their background and experiences.

The Chairman also stated that Regents Walker and Nwagbaraocha would be assigned to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee. He reminded the Board that they are all members of the Association of Governing Boards (AGB) as a part of Morgan’s institutional membership. He stated that the Board would likely have a speaker from AGB come to the Board retreat in June to present on one of the topics related to Board development and trusteeship. He then added that we were glad and honored to have the Graves family come in November for the opening of the Business School building. He also thanked everyone that attended the Winter Commencement. He said that he appreciated the Regents attendance. He also thanked everyone who came to the Winter Choral Concert and the Regent’s Reception. The Chairman announced that university alumnus Eric White passed away in December of 2015.

The Chairman reminded the Regents of a few important items and upcoming events. He said the annual budget hearings would be held in February. He thanked members of the Board who made their annual contributions to the university prior to December 31, 2015. He also noted that all annual financial disclosure statements would be due by April 30, 2016. The Chairman stated that the President’s Evaluation Committee needed some continuity, and Regent Ellis has agreed to serve as the committee Chairman again this year. He said that a portion of the Closed Session agenda would include discussion around the President’s evaluation process.

### **President’s Report to the Board**

The Chairman moved to the next agenda item which was the President’s Report. Dr. Gibson began the report on Dr. Wilson’s behalf. She started the report by updating the Board with a summary of major activities of the institution. Dr. Gibson stated that as a part of the epic snowstorm of 2016, pipes burst in Truth Hall and in Montebello. Many of the staff had to be relocated until renovations and repairs can be made.

Provost Gibson stated that the university was looking to receive one of the largest gifts in its history of the university. More details would follow at a later date.

The Morgan football team of 1966 was recognized at the Florida Citrus Bowl. It was an outstanding acknowledgement of the team members who were pioneers of that time and one of the greatest football teams in the country.

She stated that enrollments were tracking well for the spring, and the application numbers look very favorable for the fall enrollment as well.

She said that the Governor's proposed budget for Morgan State University would be available and reminded the Board of the upcoming legislative hearings.

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the President's Report. It was MOVED by Regent Walker and SECONDED by Regent Ellis. The President's Report was APPROVED as presented.

### **Report of the Standing Committees**

#### **Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

Regent Gilliam stated that the committee meeting minutes of November 3, 2016 were approved. She said that the SGA Constitution was approved and she thanked Dr. Banks for his leadership in following through on this process.

Dr. Gilliam stated that Dr. Alao provided an overview of the General Education and Performance Accountability Reports. The necessary portions were approved.

Regent Gilliam stated that the review and revision of the University Council bylaws would be tabled for further review. The matter was tabled.

The review and approval of MSU Graduation/Diploma Policy was tabled, also.

Regent Gilliam also summarized the review and discussion of the competency-based education and learning policy. She said the Credit Competency-based Education and Prior Learning policies were approved.

Dr. Gilliam also stated that an update on the online programs was given. She said that this concluded her report.

#### **Finance and Facilities Committee**

The Chairman then called for the report from the Finance and Facilities committee. Regent Malcom stated that the committee meeting minutes of November 3, 2016 were approved.

Regent Malcom stated that there was an update and discussion around the adjustment to the non-exempt employee salary structure. Following the study, there was a recommendation to make the adjustment for the staff who were affected by the structure itself. The adjustment will bring these staff members in line with what exists for the USM employees in this category. The adjusted structure was approved unanimously.

She stated that Mr. Evans provided a brief update on the status of the Stepney Lane Academic Building. She said that the full discussion would occur in Closed Session.

Regent Malcom said that this concluded her report.

### **Audit and Institutional Assessment Committee**

The Chairman then referred to Regent Cummings for the report from the Audit and Institutional Assessment Committee. Regent Cummings stated that that he had no items to report at this time.

### **New Business**

The Chairman commended Mr. Evans, Ms. McCalla and Ms. Whittaker for all of the major work they had been involved in at the institution to include: the new School of Business, the Next Generation IT Project and many others that have aided in moving the institution forward.

Regent Parker-Warren asked why the football players do not have their names on the uniforms. The Chairman responded that he was not aware that they were not on the jerseys. Dr. Banks stated that we have not had a history of having names on the jerseys due to cost.

Regent Parker-Warren, referring back to the students who spoke at the beginning of the meeting, also asked what sources of outreach are available for our students to discuss issues that are of importance to them such as conflict, loss, violence, etc. The Chairman directed the question to Dr. Banks. Dr. Banks said that freshmen are required to go through conflict resolution sessions during freshman week. The also complete sexual harassment training. He said that over the past few years, we have become very strict on student behavior. He did add that the Counseling Center is another resource that is available for students to discuss these matters.

Regent Walker noted that it seems that security is not a problem on the campus. It seems to be in Baltimore and the surrounding communities.

Regent Gilliam said that she expects that the Board will get a full explanation related to security along with other information related to this matter. The Chairman stated that he is sure that the President will share this information with us as soon as it is available. Regent Taylor asked how the Board can reach beyond their scope to assist in any way.

Regent Malcom added that we should look at best practices of what other institutions are doing to include recruitment and training of mediators. Since we are an imbedded part of the community, maybe this should be a part of the Morgan Mile. What have other groups done to incorporate this to keep young minds focused as well as to give them conflict resolution strategies?

Regent Parker-Warren asked if these issues are brought up at the Town Hall Meetings.

Regent Draper asked when the community alerts go out. She said she got calls from students in regards to the situation that happened with her family member. She said that was how she was informed.

Dr. Banks stated that campus alerts go out when there is an incident on the main campus. Morgan View is not part of the main campus, but he said that he would have a conversation with the Campus Police Executive Director to discuss strategies for informing everyone of these types of matters.

The Chairman stated that the Board would be kept apprised of developments as information became available, as well as any procedures and university processes that would be changed to aid in ensuring the safety and security of the Morgan's students and the university community as a whole.

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the Public Session to move into Closed Session. The MOTION was made by Regent Parker-Warren and SECONDED by Regent Gilliam.

The MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Public Session adjourned at 3:11 pm. The Board moved into Closed Session.