

# Athens Technical College

Board of Directors Meeting

WebEx Minutes

January 19, 2021

9:00 A.M.

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Kyle Brown  
Mrs. Barbara Cabaniss  
Mrs. Rebecca Dally  
Mr. Tom Denny  
Mr. Steve Hollis  
Judge Robert Motley  
Mayor Fred Perriman  
Dr. Reginald Woods

## MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Jimmy Parker  
Judge Lawton Stephens

## CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chair Rebecca Dally called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. welcoming everyone to the January board meeting.

## ROLL CALL

Becky Allen, Executive Assistant in the President's Office, called the roll.

## SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Stephanie Benson presented a PowerPoint presentation on Adult Education New Initiatives. This year they established the laptop lending lab which started with twenty-five laptops that could be lent out to students for school use. With all the success, the program has been extended. Future Fridays have been taking place every Friday at the college. The sessions share with students what all Adult Education has to offer.

We currently have the highest enrollment for the Career Plus High School Equivalency. The Blackboard Geometry class was just approved by the state. This will allow students who need this course to take it in order to get their GED. They are working on getting COGNIA accredited for high school classes. There is a new open access course development through Georgia Best. They will be able to serve so many students through this initiative.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Dally called for approval of the November minutes. Tom Denny made a motion to approve the minutes and Judge Robert Motley seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. The minutes were approved.

## **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

Kathryn Thomas presented the Financial Report as of December 31, 2020.

## **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Glenn Henry presented an update on Academic Affairs. Spring semester is off to a good start. Classes this semester are face-to-face and online.

We are still taking COVID-19 protocols at the college which include wearing masks, washing hands, practicing social distancing, etc.

There is one change that needs to be done to our Business Management Program in order to make it consistent with TCSG's board business management curriculum. Changing the curriculum of this program will allow students to be able to have more problem solving skills and critical thinking skills. In order to do this we would like to terminate two Technical Certificates of Credit (TCCs) – quality assurance specialist and quality assurance professional,; as well as five specializations – general supervision, operations management, quality assurance specialist, supply chain management, and customer service specialist. These will be replaced by a new Business Management Diploma, three new TCCs and one new specialization to bring us more in line with TCSG's curriculum. These TCCs include logistics management specialist TCC, human resources specialist TCC, and management and leadership TCC. The new specialization is general management. There were also adjustments to the human resources specialization.

Changes to the Marketing Management program are also needed. The addition of two embedded TCCs has been requested by students and is responsive to industry changes. These TCCs are social media marketing and e-commerce marketer. The discontinuation of the sports management TCC is indicated by lack of graduates and demand by employers in our service area.

Mr. Henry asked the board for approval to terminate the two TCCs and five specializations, and add the diploma, three TCCs, and one specialization to the Business Management Program, as well as adding two TCCs and terminating one TCC in the Marketing Management Program. Dr. Reginald Woods made a motion to approve and Tom Denny seconded the motion with the remainder of the board in agreement. This action item was approved by the board.

We have put in an application to become a vaccine closed point of distribution (POD). We would receive 5,600 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to distribute to students, faculty and staff and family members.

## **STUDENT AFFAIRS**

Lenzy Reid gave the board an update on Student Affairs. Spring semester is going well. Enrollment is down 11% from last year with credit hours being down 12%. However, last year's enrollment number is pre-COVID.

COVID-19 precautions are still being taken at the college.

They are starting to prepare for Graduation, which is set for May 3, 2021.

They are looking for ways to help students continue their education.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Al McCall gave the board an update on Economic Development. They have started their CNA class again thanks to the help of Stephanie Benson. There are five students enrolled in the class, which begins January 26<sup>th</sup>.

Project management training is currently taking place at Sign Brothers.

Three day DOT hazardous materials regulations awareness training will be taking place soon.

Just completed servsafe exam for all Zaxby's employees.

Will be providing a servsafe class to Walton County schools as well as Greene County.

Driver's education course began last week in Athens. He is working on getting a class started for Elbert County as well.

They have a new employee, Marvin Nunnally, who is the Coordinator for Economic Development.

### **ADULT EDUCATION**

Stephanie Benson gave the board an update on Adult Education. The new Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Dr. Laurie McDowell, has started.

### **COLLEGE UPDATES**

Antoine Boynton gave board members an update on the Athens Tech Foundation. They are wrapping up the calendar year for the Athens Tech Foundation.

The Athens Tech Foundation awarded \$70,000 in scholarships.

The rescue rollout fund provided \$58,000 in assistance to 110 students.

The Athens Tech Foundation provided a total of \$128,000 in support to students this past year.

They are working with AwardSpring, which is what students use to apply for scholarships, in order to make sure students' information like addresses, GPA, programs of study, etc. are up to date.

There will be twenty-two scholarships totaling \$36,000 awarded for Spring Semester. As of this morning, 142 students have applied for scholarships.

The Athens Tech Foundation is looking at having a donor breakfast this year if they are able to.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Daniel presented the President's Report. TCSG Commissioner Dozier visited the college on Friday. It was a good visit in which the Commissioner took a tour of campus and had lunch with Dr. Daniel and the leadership team. Tamara Jackson and Elaine Cook, both from Piedmont Athens Regional, also met with the Commissioner to discuss the partnership the college has with the hospital.

The Governor announced the budget last week. Athens Technical College is receiving \$13 million for a new Industrial Technology Building which will be built where the old Compass Church building is located. The design firm, Jerrico, and construction manager, Carroll Daniel, have been selected for the new building. Dr. Daniel asked board members to please thank Houston Gaines, Marcus Wiedower, Tom McCall, and Frank Ginn who have all been huge supporters in obtaining the new building.

The Governor's budget also included \$23.9 in renovation and repair funds for TCSG colleges and \$10 million for equipment refresh at the colleges. The Governor also announced there would be no budget cuts.

We will have seven accreditation visits in one year, which has never happened at the college.

Our SACSCOC site visit will take place in 2023. We are already getting ready for the visit. We have applied for an abbreviated process for the visit, which will allow us to have less standards to submit.

First Lady Marty Kemp had a schedule conflict at the last minute and was not able to visit the college on Friday afternoon while the Commissioner was here. We will reschedule another day for her to visit and present her with her granite nameplate.

She thanked board members and her leadership team for all their hard work.

## **CLOSING COMMENTS**

Chair Dally asked board members if they had anything to report. No one had anything to report.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, Chair Dally adjourned the meeting with appropriate motion and second at 9:50 a.m.

---

Dr. Andrea Daniel, President  
Rebecca Allen  
Executive Assistant  
January 19, 2021

*Next scheduled Board Meeting: February 16, 2021*

*\* Denotes action items that require a vote for approval by the local board.*