Meeting Minutes

**Advisory Board**

**Wednesday April 7, 2021**

**Attendance:**  Hal Koch, Jack Dearborn, Allen Desbiens, Tim Sink, Jim Snodgrass, Chris Emond, Karen Welch, Jeremiah Barry (student), Melanie Kirby, Laura Pantano, Rebecca Dean, Andrew Fisher, Gretchen Mullin-Sawicki, Laura Scott, Tim Allison, Amy Proctor (scribe).

**Absent:** Dave Luneau, Bill Jones, Christa Keddie, Anna-Marie Sparks, Charles Seugling

Dr. Mullin-Sawicki called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

Jeremiah Barry, Architectural Engineering Technology student, presented on his NHTI experiences. Jeremiah spoke of the cost savings, the appeal of Dr. Khan, who he met in high school after a drafting and architecture course. While it’s been challenging and very different during the pandemic, he is impressed with all of his professors and the AET program. Jeremiah is also very involved with Student Senate and spoke of his motivation to be involved and to hopefully draw some newcomers to both student clubs and Senate. His plan is to transfer to Keene State College to complete his bachelor degree in Architecture.

Dr. Mullin-Sawicki discussed updates in the news about the USNH and CCSNH merger. She suggested the best updates come directly from the Chancellor, which are forwarded to each member.

In regards to the merger, Hal Koch expressed his concern about losing the focus on accessibility, affordability, and geo-relevant programming which is vital to our mission and to commuter students

Dr. Mullin-Sawicki also spoke briefly about the Transfer Academy and the various pathways offered at NHTI. She will add a more in-depth look at the Transfer Academy to the next agenda.

Laura Scott presented on fundraising and announced that she had met her goal of raising over $250,000 this year.

Tim Allison provided updates on fundraising from the Foundation.

Dr. Mullin-Sawicki and Dr. Pantano explained that we have discovered that NHTI’s Advisory Board is considered a “public body.” This makes the advisory board subject to RSA 91-A which relates to the Right To Know law. They explained that meetings have to be made public, agendas posted at least 24 hours prior to meeting and draft minutes are required to be posted within 5 business days. Postings are in Little Hall and on our website. Jack Dearborn provided valuable feedback with his experience with RSA 91.

Dr. Mullin-Sawicki shared with the board members that she had received an anonymous letter signed by “concerned faculty.” She explained normally, anonymous letters are not given much attention but since this one claimed to be authored by faculty, she took it seriously. The letter was a strong criticism of the leadership and initiatives of NHTI. The letter was shared with the college community and the Chancellor.

To highlight the progress and positive happenings at the college, Dr. Mullin-Sawicki presented on all of the many goals met within just two years toward our Five-Year Strategic Plan. A transcript of the plan and the goals that have been met, which are organized by our four pillars of Student Success, Workforce Development, Institutional Effectiveness, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, was shared with the board. Amy also emailed them each a copy for further review.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Proctor, Assistant to the President

Submitted by,

Name

Title