PRESENT: EXCUSED:

Ms. Anne Candies Mr. Carlos Zervigon

Dr. Rachel T. Davis-Haley

Mr. Wood Delahoussaye

Ms. Janice R. Manuel

Dr. Joe Ricks

Ms. Beth Scioneaux

Mr. Gary Solomon

Mr. Jefferson Turner

Ms. Robin Williams

EX-OFFICIO:

Mr. Silas Cooper

CALL TO ORDER

Board President, Mr. Gary Solomon, called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The roll was taken. There were nine of ten members present. Quorum was present.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Mr. Mark-Anthony Thomas, NOCCA Classical Vocal Artist-Teacher, introduced Chantel Collins, Classical Vocal Level IV 12th grade Academic Studio student who performed Florence Price’s “Bewilderment”. Chantel previously performed the same piece at the First Lady’s Masterclass, and she is preparing for the upcoming Opera Scenes on November 6th and 7th.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Wood Delahoussaye moved to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2022, May 10, 2022, June 14, 2022 NOCCA Board Meetings and the August 1, 2022 NOCCA Personnel Committee Meeting in globo. Dr. Rachel Davis-Haley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

STUDENT SERVICES

Mr. Blake Coheley, Director of Admissions and Student Services, reported on NOCCA’s Non-credit Workshop Series developed to increase accessibility and recruitment; and to expand the NOCCA footprint. Next semester, workshops will focus on reaching students who aren’t able to come to NOCCA during the regular schedule and allowing current students the opportunity to explore other arts areas.

Mr. Coheley announced the NOCCA Open Studio on October 1, 2022 when the whole school will be open to the public. Due to the pandemic, NOCCA hasn’t been able have an in-person Open Studio since 2019.

The application deadline, December 15, 2022, is earlier than usual due to the Mardi Gras break.

FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Dr. Kit Nelson presented the 2022-23 Academic Studio Faculty Certification for Board approval. She highlighted additions to this list from previous years: Grace Booth, 10th grade Humanities; Adam Karlin 9th grade Humanities; and returning faculty Angela Watkins, 10th grade Humanities. Ms. Anne Candies made a motion to certify the Academic Studio faculty for the 2022-23 school year. Mr. Jefferson Turner seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Lotte Delaney, NOCCA CFO, presented the Employee Handbook Update regarding payout of leave when employees separated from NOCCA. Ms. Janice Manuel made a motion to approve the handbook update allowing for segregating three types of employees for rules regarding leave payout: classified employees (State Civil Service), unclassified employees (executive order by governor), and teachers (Revised Statue 17:1201). Mr. Delahoussaye seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Delaney reviewed the budget update and described encumbered funds. Dr. Joe Ricks asked for an additional column for clarification of encumbered funds in future budget reviews.

NOCCA FOUNDATION

Ms. Sally Perry, Executive Director, was present to take questions. Mr. Solomon asked the board members to become Friends of NOCCA by making an annual donation to the Foundation.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Mr. Solomon thanked the Board for attending this first, in-person meeting since the pandemic and expressed the intent to complete all remaining meetings in-person. Mr. Solomon also invited the Board members to come early to the next meeting in November as there will be opportunities for school tours during class time so they can see students in action.

Ms. Candies made a motion for a Board Resolution to give Mr. Solomon approval to sign Board contracts. Dr. Ricks seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Dr. Ricks made a motion for a Board Resolution to approve the 2022-23 contract with Adams and Reese for legal services. Ms. Manuel seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

PRESIDENT/CEO REPORT

Mr. Cooper introduced two new Board members, Dr. Ricks from Xavier University and Ms. Robin Bouie Williams, new proxy for Senator Bouie.

Mr. Cooper told the Board of recent parent meetings that were very well attended with positive feedback. He also shared with the Board department collaborations that were currently in process between Visual Arts/Drama and Creative Writing/Media Arts. He also described student interest in experiencing disciplines other than the one in which they are enrolled.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Solomon asked for public comment. There was none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Candies made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Board moved into Executive Session.

PRESIDENT/CEO SALARY ADJUSTMENT

Dr. Ricks made a motion to retroactively increase the base compensation for the President/CEO by 3% effective the date that faculty and staff received the same increase. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REMARKS/OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Solomon asked for any closing remarks/other business.

ADJOURN

Dr. Ricks made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wood seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Reviewed by: Attest:

Leigh Traylor Silas Cooper Gary Solomon

Recording Secretary Secretary to the Board President of the Board

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_