



Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher Education
Executive Committee Meeting
February 23, 2021
Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Executive Committee Members Present

Mr. R. Wes Hayes, Chair
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne, Vice Chair
Mr. Paul Batson
Mr. Charles Dalton
Mr. Charles Munns

CHE Staff Present

Dr. Rusty Monhollon, President & Executive Director
Ms. Laura Belcher, Operations Manager
Ms. Monica Goodwin, Director of Research-Data & IT
Dr. John Lane, Director of Academic Affairs
Ms. Shakara Smith, Executive Assistant
Mr. Georges Tippens, Facilities Program Manager
Ms. Bunnie Ward, Director of Governmental Affairs & Communications
Mr. Bryce Wilson, Director of Fiscal Affairs
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Director of Student Affairs

Chair Hayes called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Approval of Minutes January 25, 2021

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 25 Executive Committee meeting. Commissioner Batson motioned and Commissioner Horne seconded to approve the minutes. Chair Hayes called for the vote and the minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Review of the March 04, 2021 CHE Draft Meeting Agenda

Wes Hayes

Chair Hayes called on President Monhollon to summarize his upcoming President's report. President Monhollon stated that his report would include updates regarding spring enrollment, CHE's Implementation of the Public Agenda, the Student Advisory Council, and legislative updates. Chair Hayes requested an update regarding the press conference hosted by the CHE to be included in the report, to which President Monhollon confirmed.

Chair Hayes asked Ms. Ward to provide a preview of the legislative report update. Ms. Ward shared that the proviso subcommittee meeting would be held tomorrow. She stated that she is monitoring a few scholarship bills, including H3485, a bill that would require high school students to take an English and Math course or a Computer Science course during their senior year to become eligible for the LIFE scholarship. Chair Hayes asked if the requirement would reduce the number of eligible recipients, to which



Ms. Ward explained that the data is currently being explored, but concerns exist that the stipulation could potentially impact access and affordability for students. Chair Hayes asked if the Department of Education (DOE) was supportive of the bill, to which Ms. Ward replied that DOE had not taken a position on the bill, however, the CHE will work collaboratively to ensure that student transcripts distinctively illustrate completion of the requirement.

Then Committee Chairs reviewed their committee reports for the CHE meeting.

Commissioner Munns shared the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing (CAAL) would have seven program proposals and three additional items for consideration on the consent agenda. The agenda would also include one informational item, SARA Annual Report. He requested an executive session, including general counsel, to discuss legal issues. Commissioner Munns stated that regarding item C, Consideration of Request for Initial License: St. Andrews University, letters were received expressing concerns with the proposal from two institutions following CAAL's unanimous approval. Commissioner Munns suggested having a full discussion, which will determine if the item will be removed from the consent agenda. He next requested that Dr. Lane and staff introduce the Statistical Abstract to guests and Commissioners. President Monhollon asked if it would be appropriate to include the Statistical Abstract as part of his report instead, to which Commissioner Munns agreed.

Commissioner Batson said the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services would have one item on the consent agenda, the South Carolina Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers, FY 2019-2020 Quarter I and II Report and two informational items, the South Carolina Scholarship Appeals Cycle and the Tucker Hipps Transparency Act.

Commissioner Dalton shared that the Committee on Finance and Facilities will meet Thursday morning before the full Commission meeting. He shared that the Committee currently has three permanent improvement projects and requested the addition of one lease proposal to consider from the Medical University of South Carolina. He explained that the Committee will also provide Permanent Improvement Project Staff Approvals for the month of February. He next shared that an update would be provided on the two taskforces, deferred maintenance and tuition utilization, created within the Committee. Mr. Tippens stated that the Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College project could possibly be revised, so it could potentially be removed from the agenda.

3. Other Business

No other business.

4. Adjourn

The Executive Committee adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.