



Meeting Minutes

Committee on Strategic Initiatives and Engagement

September 7, 2023

Members

Commissioner Doug Snyder
Commissioner Hugh Mobley
Commissioner Gene Fant

Commissioner Patrick White
Commissioner Dino Teppara

Commissioner Cleveland Sellers was absent.

Commission Staff Present

Ms. Bunnie Ward
Ms. Laura Belcher
Mr. Mark Swart
Ms. Yarley Steedly
Ms. April Jones
Ms. Tanya Weigold

Dr. Rusty Monhollon
Ms. Shardai Figgures
Dr. Kristin Brooks
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk
Ms. Leslie Williams

Ms. Ashton Talbert
Ms. Nia Simmons
Dr. Corey Gheesling
Mr. Chris Glenn
Dr. Mariam Dittmann

Guests

Cam Reagin
Trena Houpp

Tanya King
Julian Harris

John Catalano
Shannon Means

All attended either in-person or via Zoom.

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Chairman Snyder opened the Committee on Strategic Initiatives and Engagement meeting. Ms. Ashton Talbert took attendance and noted that Commissioner Sellers was not in attendance but that the Committee did have a quorum and that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Chairman Snyder called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Snyder asked for a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. Motion was seconded, agenda approved.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Chairman Snyder asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 2, 2023 meeting. Motion was seconded, minutes approved.

4. Election of Chair/Vice Chair

Chairman Snyder asked for nominations for the Chair and Vice Chair positions for the Committee. Commissioner Snyder was nominated to remain Chair, motion and second were made, Committee approved Commissioner Snyder as Chair. White was nominated to remain Vice Chair, motion and second were made, Committee approved Commissioner White as Vice Chair.

5. Chair's Report

Chairman Snyder provided the following updates:

A. Statute Review Timetable

Based on the House Legislative Oversight Committee (HLOC) findings, from now until November, we will be working to review and prepare to provide recommendations on the nine statutes that were presented earlier this year.

B. Committee on Strategic Initiatives and Engagement Charter Timetable

Each Committee has been tasked with developing a charter for their Committee and the goal is to have a draft charter prepared to present at the November meeting.

C. CHE Mission, Vision, and Values Discussion

The mission of CHE is coming from statute and our emphasis may be changing as Act 67 is implemented and providing direction that we did not have before. An overview of Act 67 was provided by Ms. Bunnie Ward for the Committee members.

6. Director's Report

Ms. Bunnie Ward provided a staffing update nothing that the Office of Strategic Initiatives and Engagement is fully staffed and introduced Ms. Nia Simmons, Transfer and Articulation Program Manager.

A. Transfer

Dr. Kristin Brooks provided an update regarding the Transfer Initiative, highlighting the establishment of the Transfer Council, continuing conversations surrounding SC TRAC, and the upcoming Transfer Excellence Convening on October 4, 2023 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Dr. Brooks also noted that currently we are focused on articulation and course requirements and the CHE hopes to shift to a more holistic view of transfer to include the credit piece but also the culture and how that impacts students, retaining them, and getting them to completion.

B. Workforce Development

Dr. Corey Gheesling provided an update on the Nursing Initiative as well as the Coordinating Council for Workforce Development (CCWD) and the Unified State Plan. Regarding Nursing, the CHE facilitated the Nursing Education panel at the Board Retreat, finalized the loan program, communicated FY23-24 allocations to institutions, and are finalizing the FY22-23 report to the legislature. Related to the CCWD, Dr. Gheesling discussed Act 67 and the work he is assisting with to keep on track with the deliverables presented in the Unified State Plan timeline.

C. Engagement Update

Mr. Mark Swart provided an update on communications and engagements that have recently taken place.

7. CHE Strategic Planning Discussion

Chairman Snyder discussed that we will look to use the Unified State Plan to create a baseline for projections/goals moving forward and to note the need, where we are now, and where we are headed regarding strategic planning for higher education.

8. External CHE Studies

Ms. Laura Belcher provided updates regarding the House Legislative Oversight Committee study, Senate Legislative Oversight Committee study, and the Inspector General inquiry.

9. Other Business

The Committee did not have any further business to discuss.

10. Adjournment

Chairman Snyder asked if there was any other business before the Committee. Being none, Chairman Snyder adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.