Minutes of the Academic Medical Centers and Hospital Committee of the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York June 15, 2015

The Academic Medical Centers and Hospital Committee of the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York held a meeting on June 15, 2015, at the SUNY Global Center in New York City.

Committee Members Present:
Mr. John Murad, Chair, via video
Trustee Corngold
Trustee Lewin
Trustee Staller
Trustee Lichtman
Trustee McCall, Chairman, ex officio

Trustees not present:
Trustee Belluck
Trustee Fatta
Trustee Good
Trustee Sanford

Other Trustees Present:
Trustee Dullea
Trustee Ehrenberg
Trustee Knuepfer
Trustee Mastro
Trustee Socarides
Trustee Spielvogel
Trustee Waldman

Others Present:
Ms. Nancy Zimpher
Dr. Alexander Cartwright
Ms. Stacey Hengsterman
Dr. Elizabeth Bringsjord
Ms. Eileen McLoughlin
Ms. Sandra Casey
Ms. Stephanie Fargnoli
Mr. Robert Haelen
Mr. Joel Pierre-Louis
Ms. Ruth Booher
Ms. Wendy Ravitz
Mr. Christian Mullin
Mr. Josh Sager
Dr. Susan Phillips  
Mr. Mike Abbott  
Mr. Joseph Porter  
Dr. Samuel Stanley  
Dr. John McCabe  
Ms. Deborah Sale  
Mr. Fred Matthews, via video  
Ms. Heather Eichin  

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Lichtman at 2:11 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2015.

- Trustee Lichtman made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2015 meeting. The motion was approved.

- Trustee Lichtman outlined the Governance Resolution based on the Governance Task Force Committee recommendations:
  
  ➢ The next step to the process is to task SUNY staff to move forward with further refining details that would assist SUNY in going forward with the desire for a new governance entity.
  ➢ The details of the recommendation included use of a Board of Overseers that would include members with expertise in health care and possibly the creation of a separate corporation.
  ➢ A phased approach to implementation was suggested:
    ➢ Phase I – include health care experts into the SUNY Academic Medical Centers and Hospitals Committee (SUNY AMCHC) in addition to the SUNY Board of Trustees (SUNY BOT) to assist with review and recommendations for SUNY Academic Medical Centers (SUNYAMC).
    ➢ Phase II – creation of a subsidiary, called the Board of Overseers, through the legislative process.
  
- Ms. Sale provided additional information highlighting:
  ➢ the importance of a phased approach to implementation in order to move forward in the absence of immediate legislative action, especially in light of the history surrounding SUNY AMC governance models which were not implemented in the past;
  ➢ the necessity to bring health care experts onto the SUNY AMCHC in phase I;
  ➢ the status of discussions with the legislature to date on the creation of a separate entity with a Board of Overseers.

- The SUNY trustees and meeting attendees expressed the following:
  ➢ necessity to clearly articulate lines between SUNY Board of Overseers authorities/responsibilities to the SUNY BOT authorities/responsibilities;
appropriateness of AMC Presidents engaged and/or active participants in the modified governance structure

benefits of being able leverage additional resources and expertise into the SUNY BOT Academic Medical Centers and Hospital Committee in the interim, prior to creation of a separate entity;

importance of an integrated model of governance so as to best serve the needs of the State of New York.

additional review of framework to ensure the applicability to University at Buffalo and the ability of SUNY Board of Overseers to provide consistent oversight given the differences in the AMC models;

importance of health care expertise in membership of SUNY Board of Overseers;

modification of the resolution to ensure that the SUNY AMCHC sees detail plans for implementation and that staff continue to work with the AMCH presidents.

Ms. Hengsterman provided an update on the legislative discussions around the creation of a new entity and expressed that the higher education and health care chairs are supportive and that it will be important to work with them on the language as this is a complex issue.

President Stanley expressed his support for a model that recognizes the integrated nature of the SUNY AMC enterprise and acknowledged the financial support that the hospital provides to the operation of a successful overall enterprise.

Trustee Lichtman noted that the resolution would be amended for trustee recommendations made at the meeting and a subsequent meeting would be scheduled to discuss further details. He then put forth the resolution for a vote and the resolution passed.

Trustee Lichtman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:09 p.m. which was approved.