

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE
Southmost Union Junior College District

Minutes of the **Regular** Meeting of the Board of Trustees
March 11, 2004

The Board of Trustees of the Southmost Union Junior College District convened in open session March 11, 2004 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Gorgas Hall at Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Chairman Chester Gonzalez, Vice Chair Rosemary Breedlove, Secretary Eduardo Campirano, Mary Rose Cardenas, David Oliveira, Dr. Roberto Robles and Dolly Zimmerman. Also present was Dr. Juliet V. García, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chester Gonzalez at 5:35 p.m.

Chairman Gonzalez introduced Dr. Hilda Silva, Vice President for Student Affairs, who announced the results of the Recreational and Fitness Center Referendum. The referendum passed with 1,927 votes for and 656 votes against. The construction cost is estimated at \$9 million. The cost for students would be between \$75 and \$79 per semester, the fee would be implemented in Fall 2005.

Dr. Silva introduced Edward Camarillo, President, and Alex Salinas, Vice President, of the Student Government Association. Mr. Camarillo thanked the UTB/TSC Students, Mr. Vince Solis, Director for Student Activities, Dr. Mari Fuentes-Martin, Dean of Students, and the Board of Trustees for their encouragement and support of the recreation center. He especially thanked Dr. García for her leadership to the students.

The Board of Trustees thanked the Student Government Association for their efforts with the Recreation and Fitness Center Referendum.

1 Executive Session as provided by Government Code, Chapter 551.072

Real Estate

Discussion on Novillo Canyon Property
Discussion on East Jackson Street
Properties
Discussion on a 1.074 acre tract of land
of the Fort Brown Villa Condominium
Regime

The Board convened in Executive Session at 5:50 p.m.

2 Consideration and possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session

Real Estate

Discussion on Novillo Canyon Property
Discussion on East Jackson Street
Properties
Discussion on a 1.074 acre tract of land
of the Fort Brown Villa Condominium
Regime

The Board convened in Open Session at 6:52 p.m.

No action was taken in Open Session.

3 Approval of minutes of previous meeting

Regular Meeting January 18, 2004

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 18, 2004, as presented; seconded by Ms. Zimmerman; motion carried.

4 Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion

There were no speakers.

5 Board Briefing

Enrollment Update

This item was tabled

6 Heritage Plan**Consideration and possible action on
adopting a resolution granting certain tax
exemptions to certain historic sites under the 2004 Heritage Plan**

Dr. John Ronnau, Vice President for Administration and Partnership Affairs, stated that the resolution is in keeping with our community university's interest and commitment to the restoration and preservation of historic properties.

Mr. Campirano stated that the value of preserving these historic sites was far greater than the revenues that the District will forego.

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to Adopt the Resolution granting certain tax exemptions to certain historic sites under the 2004 Heritage Plan as presented; seconded by Ms. Breedlove; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "A"

7 Resolution**Consideration and possible action on
Resolution in Support of the Sports Foundation of Brownsville
and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Community Olympics Developments Program**

Dr. Ronnau stated that the resolution is intended to support the Brownsville Sports Authority's application for an Olympic Community Development Program.

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to Adopt the Resolution in Support of the Sports Foundation of Brownsville and the Lower Rio Grande Valley Community Olympics Developments Program as presented; seconded by Ms. Cardenas; motion carried a unanimously. Exhibit "B"

8 Resolution**Consideration and possible action on
Resolution Establishing an Ad Valorem Tax Freeze On Residence Homestead of
the Disabled and of the Elderly and Their Spouses**

This item was tabled

9 District Elections**Consideration and possible action on
authorization to enter into negotiations to contract with
Cameron County Elections Administrator to conduct election services**

Ms. Veronica Mendez, Assistant Vice President for Administration and Partnership Affairs, requested a motion for Authorization to enter into negotiations to contract with the Cameron County Elections Administrator to conduct the trustee election on May 15th. She stated that the contract is being developed, as negotiations need to occur with all the entities involved in the election.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove authorizing the Staff to enter into negotiations to contract with the Cameron County Elections Administrator to conduct the May 15th trustee election as presented; seconded by Ms. Zimmerman; motion carried a unanimously. Exhibit "C"

**Consideration and possible action on
Notice and Order of Election**

Ms. Mendez stated that there will be 38 polling places on Election Day and 6 early voting sites.

A motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman Approving the Notice of Order of Election as presented; seconded by Mr. Oliveira; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "D"

**Consideration and possible action on
Set Date and Time for Drawing for Place on Ballot**

Ms. Mendez stated that the staff recommends to set the Date and Time for Drawing for Place on Ballot on March 16th, 3:00 p.m., at the Gorgas Tower on our Campus.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to Set Date and Time for Drawing for Place the Ballot as presented; seconded by Ms. Zimmerman; motion carried a unanimously. Exhibit "E".

10 International Innovation Center

**Consideration and possible action on
Final Payment to JDS Construction**

Dr. Ronnau reported that the International Innovation Center (Incubator) space at ITECC building is substantially complete and requested a motion to release the final payment of \$55,087.45 to JDS Construction.

A motion was made by Ms. Cardenas Authorizing final payment of \$55,087.45 to JDS Construction as presented; seconded by Dr. Robles; motion carried a unanimously. Exhibit "F".

11 Budget

Consideration and possible action on SUJCD Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2003-2004

Ms. Melba Sanchez, District Comptroller, stated that budget Amendment #04-002 is to recognize revenue for sale of Duffey Plaza, to adjust for expenses on ITECC General budget to renovate space to be occupied by the Mexican Consulate and to adjust for expenses for East Loop Enhancements.

A motion was made by Mr. Oliveira to approve SUJCD Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 #04-002 as presented; seconded by Ms. Cardenas; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "G"

12 Academic Affairs Partnership Committee

Consideration and possible action on Certificate and Associate in Web Design

Ms. Cardenas reported that the Academic Affairs Partnership Committee met on March 4, 2004.

She introduced Dr. Jose Martín, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, to report on the following items that were discussed at the meeting: Biomedical Research Update, Science Fair Update, Updates from the School of Education and the Certificates and Associate Degrees on Web Design.

Dr. Martín introduced Dr. Mahmoud Quweider, Chair of the Department of Computer Sciences and Computer Information Systems. Dr. Quweider explained the proposed Certificate and Associate in Web Design degree programs. He reported on the objectives needed to meet the growing demand for Web and Internet communication practitioners in all aspects of web design and programming.

A motion was made by Ms. Cardenas to approve the Certificate and Associate in Web Design as presented; seconded by Ms. Zimmerman; motion carried unanimously.

13 Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Committee**Report**

Ms. Breedlove reported that the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Committee (IEPC) met on Tuesday, February 17, 2004. Members present were Ms. Zimmerman, Ms. Eva Bower, Mr. Edward Camarillo, Mr. Bill Harris and Dr. John Ronnau. Also present was Ms. Sandra Rubio.

Ms. Breedlove also reported that the committee presented the proposed distribution list for the 2003 IEPC Report called "Meeting the Challenge for Higher Education in the Rio Grande Valley: Report to the Community". The committee made suggestions to add certain groups to the list.

The committee also heard from Mr. Harris about the Academic Senate's reaction to the report presented at their meeting on February 6th.

The next meeting of the IEPC will be on Tuesday, March 23, 2004.

14 Student Affairs Partnership Committee**Report**

Ms. Zimmerman reported that the Student Affairs Partnership Committee met on February 24th. She reported that Dr. Hilda Silva and Mr. Vince Solis gave an update on the student referendum for the Recreation and Fitness center.

15 Construction Report

Dr. Ronnau stated that the construction report will consist of a presentation of the draft of the campus facilities master plan. He reported that several meetings were held with members of the campus and the community to obtain thoughts and suggestions for the number and type of facilities needed to fulfill our community university's mission. 3DI will present a final draft of the revised master plan to the Futures Commission in April.

Dr. Ronnau introduced Mr. Andres Andujar, Team Leader for 3D/International. Mr. Andujar presented possible locations and proposed changes for main campus buildings.

Mr. Adjuar introduced his colleague, Mr. Ignacio Aleaga, Architect. Mr. Aleaga presented several proposed changes and improvements at the ITEC Campus.

Mr. Adjuar thanked the Board of Trustees, students, faculty and staff who helped with the revision of the master plan.

Dr. García stated that a similar presentation has been made to several different campus groups. The input from the Board of Trustees and other campus groups is greatly appreciated and will be carefully considered for inclusion in the revised master plan.

Dr. Ronnau reminded the Board that the next Campus Planning Task Force meeting of the Futures Commission will be March 24, 2004. All trustees are invited and encouraged to participate.

The Board thanked Mr. Adjuar and Mr. Aleaga for their presentations.

16 President's Report

There was no President's Report.

17 Proposed Meeting Dates

Board of Trustees Meetings:

April 22, 2004

May 24, 2004

June 24, 2004

Partnership Committee Meetings:

AAPC – May 20, 2004

BAPC – April 19, 2004

IEPC – March 23, 2004

Futures Commission Final Meeting

April 27, 2004

18 Announcements

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gonzalez at 8:50 p.m.

Mr. Chester Gonzalez
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano
Secretary Board of Trustees

NOTE: The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on March 11, 2004, is on file at the District Office of the Southmost Union Junior College District. The master tape is on file at the UTB/TSC Media center. These minutes were taken and transcribed by Alma B. Solis. Videotaping of the Board of Trustees' meetings began on April 11, 1996. They are aired on Channel KISD in cooperation with the Brownsville Independent School District.