

**FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
RETREAT**

**Monday, December 19, 2016**

**12:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.**

**Flathead Valley Community College**

A Board Retreat comprised of the Flathead Valley Community College Board of Trustees, and President Karas was convened at 12:15 p.m., Monday, December 19, 2016.

Board members present were Shannon Lund, Tom Harding, Jeremy Presta, Tom McElwain, Kelly Stimpson, Mark Holston and Callie Langohr. President Jane Karas, Vice President of Administration and Finance, Kirk Zander, and Monica Settles, Clerk of the District, were also in attendance.

Chairperson Lund called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. Trustee Mark Holston arrived at 12:20 pm.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Update**

In light of the college's 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, President Karas shared a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary update. The information provided highlighted some of the commemorative events that are planned. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration kicks off February 2 with a presentation by international speaker Garret Garrels. In addition, a Founders Day Event is planned for April 7. A commemorative publication will be available in later January and will feature historic photographs, testimonials from alumni and faculty, and a timeline of college milestones.

**Legislative Session**

President Karas noted that the Legislative Session will begin on Monday, January 2. A legislative breakfast was held on December 14, in which six local legislators attended to join President Karas for conversation. President Karas updated the Board on several items to come before the legislature that will affect community colleges. The three community colleges continue to work closely together to address these issues. President Karas will be working with the Presidents from the two other community colleges to reinstate the funding formula as it is written in statute. The community college funding formula that was used in the Governor's Budget is not the same formula that is mandated in state statute. In addition, the three community colleges will be introducing several bills that will help to clarify current statutory language. These changes include licensing language changes for FVCC's brewery program, clarifying language under statutes that include revenue bonds for future use, minor changes to definitions of students eligible under dual enrollment and language clarification as it relates to faculty and vacation hour payouts.

**Student Housing**

Student Housing is continuing to move forward. Students should still be able to move into units beginning in mid-August. The college is continuing to develop and complete housing policies and procedures. We are currently working on hiring a Residence Life position. President Karas reviewed possible rental rate options with the Board. Final decision on rental

rates will be made shortly. 124 beds, to include, 24 single and 50 double bedroom units with kitchens will be available at competitive rental rates. All units will be equipped with secure entrances. Once the weather, construction and safety permits, Board members will be able to tour the building.

*\*\*Break 1:36 pm-1:52 pm\*\**

### **Board Policies**

The Board was presented with Board Policy, Chapter I, Doctrine, Sections 10, 20, 30, 40, 70, 80, 85, Board Policy, Chapter II, Organization, Sections 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 and Board Policy, Chapter XII, Facilities, Section 30 Use of College Facilities for review. President Karas indicated that the Board will review every Board policy every three years or sooner if needed. The Board Policies have been reviewed by Executive Staff, College Council and legal counsel prior to being presented to the Board. Following review of all the presented policies, the Board did ask that Montana Code be referenced in the footnotes were needed. Changes to the footnotes will be made to include applicable Montana Code Annotated prior to the second reading of the policies at the January Board meeting.

### **Land Donation**

President Karas updated the Board on a possible land donation. The college has been given an opportunity to accept a land donation from an anonymous donor, for 31 acres located on Foothill Road. The Board will be asked to approve Resolution 17-5, authorizing President Karas to accept the donation and sign documents related to the donation of land during the Board meeting following the retreat.

### **Student Life Center**

The college is continuing to look at opportunities for a student life center. This has become a priority with the inclusion of student housing. The Board discussed the option and would like President Karas to move forward on a Student Life Center. A few ideas for the center would include a large gym (to hold future graduation ceremonies), multi-purpose room, and a possible catering kitchen. The Board would like to see a center that would be large enough to handle some growth but be cost effective.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.  
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Shannon Lund, Chairperson of the Board

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Mark Holston, Secretary to the Board