

Northern Marianas College
BOARD OF REGENTS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
NMC – Saipan Campus
9/23/02

Call to Order: 3:35 p.m.

I. Preliminary Matters

A. Roll

- 1. BOR Members:** Kimberlyn K. Hinds, Eloise A. Furey, Margarita Olopai Taitano, Vincent J. Seman, Abelina Cing-Cabrera, and Galvin Deleon Guerrero.
- 2. Legal Counsel:** Jesus C. Borja, Esq.
- 3. NMC Staff and Faculty:** Rose Igitol, Chas Algaier, Kohne Ramon, Janice Tenorio, Barbara Moir, Susan Satur, Sallie Sablan, Jack Angello, Melody Actouka, Al Johnson, George Pangelinan, Stanley Mar, David Atalig, Josephine Camacho, John Griffin, Eric Plinske, Vince Merfalen.
- 4. Other community members and guests:** Dan Nielsen, Mayumi Aguon (ASNMC), Jack Kiyoshi (ASNMC), Herman Sablan, Jesus Taisague, Amy Bartlett, Gemma Casas, Agnes McPhetres.

B. Agenda: The proposed agenda was approved with the following changes:

1. New Business was moved to Item 5
2. Old business was moved to item 4

C. Minutes of July 10, 2002 – Minutes were reviewed and approved with the following changes:

1. Legal Counsel Jesus C. Borja was present during meeting of July 10, 2002.
2. Item 8, page 4 – Regent Seman will follow up with Board of Education (BOE) and set up a meeting with BOE Chair.

D. Minutes of July 22, 2002 - Minutes were reviewed and approved with the following changes:

1. Legal Counsel Jesus C. Borja was present during meeting of July 22, 2002.
2. Item 5, section c -- Dr. Kenneth Wright is from La Jolla, California

II. Miscellaneous – Public Input Chair opened the floor to the public for input.

A. President Wright – Item for Miscellaneous section of agenda. President has had conversations with legal counsel regarding board policies conflicting and feels the need to review the entire set. He has contacted several people in the States and has received recommendations to use Tarrant County Community College policies as a model especially because there is a legal foundation for each section of the policies – ready access for why we have each policy. Distributed copy of first set for BOR review.

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B. Tony Guerrero – HANMI resolution -- Amended the agenda to include on the agenda HANMI Resolution as Item D under new business.

III. REPORTS

A. Programs Committee Chairman’s Report – Regent Guerrero reports

All items of report will be dealt with under old business (student representative to board, licensure policy, and 3 licensure applicants – IBPC, Joy Pacific University, Tinian University)

B. Fiscal Committee Chairman’s Report – Regent Seman reports

NMC is still getting finances organized. Under new the president, action is being taken to get accurate picture of NMC. The 8% budget cut was restored to NMC and NMC should meet remaining payroll obligation for remainder of fiscal year.

C. Personnel Committee Chairwoman’s Report – Regent Hinds reports

A number of policies have reached the personnel committee level. The committee has decided that they will not address the proposed changes until Ken makes presentation to avoid “band-aid” cover-ups.

D. President’s Report – President Wright reports

1. To appoint a student representative, the Board must get formal authority approval to get a formal appointment. BOR can invite student, but cannot appoint.
2. Licensing will be covered later
3. Any policy changes made have a posting notice and process by which we do that.
4. Other matters discussed under reorganization and redesign

E. Faculty Senate’s Report – Vince Riley reports

1. Skip first page at recommendation of committee, as it will be addressed later
2. Faculty assembly and faculty senate made a resolution regarding fees in July and have not heard anything regarding accounting for fees.
3. Faculty concerns about participation in governance, inequities in contracts, implementation of 1997 salary classification schedule, liability for accidents where cars are parked in hazardous sites, childcare for student parents, professional development program

F. ASNMC’s Report – Vice President Mayumi Aguon reports

1. Written report will be submitted later.
2. Because the constitution does not set a limit, ASNMC held an inauguration of fifteen honorary members to assist ASNMC in its work.
3. Several successful activities were conducted including: a painting party to clean and paint Student Center, student forum between ASNMC and students, an ice cream social,

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4. Upcoming events include: Haunted House, a meeting with the NMC president, ping pong, table tennis, ice cream social, and haunted house.

IV. Old Business:

A. Student Representative on the BOR – Regent Guerrero presented the report and recommendations of the Program Committee.

Motion:

To establish a non-voting honorary member to be appointed by ASNMC through a very thorough process whereby ASNMC will consider students of Tinian and Rota.

Discussion:

- a. Recommend that board number one invite the faculty or a student representative to sit immediately on the board and to put forward a resolution requesting that the appointing authority formally establishes.
- b. Committee favorably considers establishing a non-voting member on BOR and tasks President to research and develop recommendation for full board.
- c. If you do want that student to be a representative, a voting member and an official member of this board then it has to be done through a statutory amendment.
- d. Because student representative will be an honorary member, the governor's approval is not needed.

Action: Motion made and carried unanimously.

B. Licensing of International Business and Professional College – Regent Guerrero

Motion: The program committee recommends granting a full “3 Year” license to the IBPC. Committee also recommends the license to allow for 2-year certification programs, computer user certification and hotel operations certification and limited ongoing professional development courses. Condition of licensure is that IBPC must pursue accreditation.

Discussion: First post-secondary college to receive full license in CNMI.

Action: Motion made and carried unanimously.

C. Application for Licensure by Joy Pacific – Regent Guerrero

The committee has not received adequate information to properly decide whether or not to grant or deny a provisional or full license. The committee will continue to correspond and work with applicant and keep the board updated on status of application.

D. Tinian University – Regent Guerrero

The committee has not received adequate information to properly decide whether or not to grant or deny a provisional or full license. The committee will continue to correspond and work with applicant and keep board updated on status of application.

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E. Post-Secondary Licensure Policies and Procedures

I. Change in Licensure Fees

Motion: Committee recommends that board amend current postsecondary licensure policy to increase application fees to \$10,000 based on committees research into applications since the implementation ~~of the~~ of the policy last year, the application process has taxed the finances and human resources of NMC the committee determined that it is inappropriate that NMC resources be utilized for the applications of other potential colleges and post-secondary institutions. The \$10,000 fee would fit the current policies identification of administrative costs involved in the application process.

Discussion:

- a. Licensing procedure went through the publication provisions in the commonwealth register and any amendments will have to go through same procedure.
- b. Revision does not apply to ongoing applicants.

Action: Motion made and carried unanimously.

II. Amend Section 18 of Licensure Policy

Motion: Move to amend section 18 of the licensure policy. The policy currently reads, “it is the board’s expectation that any institution of higher education operating within the CNMI seeking accreditation from the Western Association of Schools & Colleges or from other appropriate accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.”

Motion to amend section to read “or from a member of the Federation of Regional Accrediting Commission for Higher Education (FRACHE).”

Discussion: Accrediting bodies range from educational accrediting bodies to professional service accrediting bodies. A clear distinction that accrediting body is strictly educational must be made.

Action: Motion made and approved unanimously.

V. New Business

A. Organization/Redesign -- President Wright

Reason for Reorganization: The President conducted an intense review of operations with staff and has met with Barbara Moir & Dave Atalig regarding every element of organizational redesign. The President has also talked to other people beyond that pair and is confident that redesign will bring NMC into 21st century in many respects.

Major Theme of Reorganization: It came to President’s attention that many segments of the community feel that NMC is not responsive to community needs particularly in matters of Vocational Education. NMC has a number of segments, but not enough. NMC also lacks clarity, cohesiveness, and reliable financial

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information. Also, NMC has 64 people in positions earning about the same salary around the range of \$50,000. Instead of solving NMC's problems, another person is hired to help employees with their problem.

New Organization – Reviewed proposed changes in structure. Vocational Education will be spread throughout all divisions rather than in one department and make the entire college responsible for vocational education. NMC will become a “learner centered” institution. A “community need” survey will help NMC to see what community needs are and through better educational technology we will enhance education of the community. NMC will tap Asian students which is a large and rapidly growing market

It will be a significant change. Cost savings is not the purpose of the redesign, but it will result in taxpayers annual savings of \$641,244. This will be offset by salary increases for 7 people with new responsibilities resulting in a combined increase of \$53,057, resulting in \$588,187 savings.

Before he arrived the Board told him that they felt the need for change. Plan will be presented to staff tomorrow.

Discussion: Questions deferred to executive session.

Motion: None made in regular session.

B. FY2003 Operations Budget – Regent Seman

Motion: The fiscal committee is recommending adoption of budget submitted by budget office for FY 2003.

Discussion:

- a. NMC Representatives involved in development of budget.
- b. Faculty senate and students are concerned about fees collected not being deposited into specific accounts for those fees. Fees shouldn't be used for purposes other than what fees are collected for as students are putting a lot of money in and not getting much back. NMC has pledged to students a greater impact on student fees expended with guidance.
- c. Another budget needs to be developed in a couple of months because figures coming from business office are not accurate and cannot place confidence in figures due to state of transition. Faculty and staff are asked to place confidence in president as action is being taken and it will be resolved
- d. Body in college will be developed that is broadly representative of all sections of college and jointly decide what priorities of institution are.

3. ***Action:*** Motion made and carried -- Majority approval of FY2003 budget – 5 yea and 1 nay

C. HANMI Resolution – Tony Guerrero reports

Meetings with Officers of Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands (HANMI) regarding advantages of the tax credit to NMC authorized by PL 10-73

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have resulted in a resolution. HANMI is looking forward to supporting a hospitality management program at NMC. Short-term plan will have individual donors do \$5000 donations and then set up scholarship fund.

Motion: Adopt HANMI resolution.

Discussion: recommendation for duration – trial basis two-year period

Action: Motion made and carried -- unanimous approval.

D. Election of New Chair

Motion: Vincent J. Seman was selected as Chairman of the Board of Regents.

Discussion: None

Action: Motion made and carried – unanimous approval.

VI. Executive Session

VII. Adjournment: The Board moved and second to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned 5:47 p.m.

Approved By:

Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero
BOR Secretary/Treasurer

Date