

VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF VWCC BOARD #81B

The Executive Committee of the Virginia Western Community College Board met Friday, May 18, 1979, at 12 noon at the Shenandoah Club.

Attending: Mr. Warner Dalhouse, Chairman
Mrs. Betty Chaney
Mr. William S. Russell
Mr. Maury Strauss
Dr. Harold Hopper

Guests: Mr. Dwight Blalock, Dean of Financial and
Administrative Services
Mr. Hugh Phelps, Division Chairman, Engineering
and Industrial Technology

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Mr. Dalhouse opened the meeting with a discussion of the Educational Foundation Program. In addition to the five Board members who will serve on this committee (Mr. Dalhouse, Mrs. Chaney, Mr. Russell, Mr. Strauss, and Mr. Jennings), the bylaws state that four individuals from the community service area should also be included in the membership of the committee. Several persons were recommended, and Mr. Dalhouse and Mr. Strauss will contact those suggested, inviting them to serve on the Educational Foundation Committee.

ROANOKE CITY SERVICE CHARGE

After talking with Bern Ewert, city manager, Mr. Dalhouse advised that Mr. Ewert assured him that there was money in this year's city budget to cover the 1979-80 request, plus an amount to reimburse the college for the amount deleted last year. The Chairman will arrange for a meeting with Joel Schlanger and appropriate city officials so that he and Mr. Strauss can discuss the service charge and receive a final and firm ruling.

PLANTINGS ON JOGGING TRACK

The committee approved the planting of a hemlock hedge bordering the college property (on the Pasley Avenue side) on the finger of land behind Anderson Hall, as well as dogwood and azalea plantings along the jogging track. Dr. Hopper presented a drawing of the proposed plantings for the committee's view and recommendations.

GREENHOUSE

Reporting on the status of the greenhouse project, Mr. Phelps, coordinator of the project, advised that work is continuing on the working drawings, and they will be completed by June 15. If work goes according to schedule, the facility should be ready for occupancy by January 1980. Dr. Hopper reported that a revised budget for this project indicated a cost of \$66,005 (\$16,005 over the \$50,000 previously approved for the solar greenhouse). After considerable discussion, the Committee requested that bids on the project be secured, budget figures be firmed, and alternative plans for a conventional greenhouse versus a solar facility be prepared, and heating with gas be considered, as well as determining the status of a federal grant proposed for the project. With this information at hand, the Board could then make a final decision on the greenhouse construction.

O/T BUILDING

Mr. Phelps advised that the construction is on schedule with completion predicted for November 1979. After the equipment has been installed, the building should be ready for occupancy the first part of January.

For the Committee's approval, Dr. Hopper presented a letter inviting Governor Dalton to the dedication ceremonies for the O/T building. Mr. Dalhouse and Dr. Hopper signed the letter, which will offer alternative dates of January 4, 9, or 11 for the dedication-- it is hoped that Governor Dalton will accept the invitation.

BRIDGE BUILDING

Mr. Phelps reported that the schematic drawings for the bridge building were approved May 4, and the preliminary drawings will be ready to present to the Art Commission the first part of July, with final drawings scheduled for December 1. Some optimism has been expressed by the Engineering and Planning Division that the project would be funded. In anticipation of this occurring, a temporary roof will be installed on the O/T building.

ENROLLMENT

An update on enrollment figures was distributed to the Committee, showing a 21% increase in headcount and a 10% FTES increase this spring quarter over spring quarter 1978.

ART GALLERY OPENING - MAY 29

Dr. Hopper advised that invitations are being mailed for the May 29 opening of the VWCC Art Gallery. He recommended to the Committee

that the gallery be named in honor of Mrs. Viola W. Painter, a former Board member and educator. It was suggested that a poll of the other members of the Board would be appropriate before finalizing this recommendation.

LUNCHEON FOR MR. JENNINGS

Dr. Hopper advised that a recognition luncheon for Mr. Charles Jennings is being planned for members of the Executive Committee and their spouses/friends during the week of June 25. When a definite date has been finalized, the Committee will be notified.

RADIO STATION

With the tight financial situation and the expense of running the radio station, Dr. Hopper announced that WVWR will be permitted to begin the process of accepting sponsorships for radio programs.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Mr. Blalock advised that the roof replacements for Duncan, Craig, and Chapman Halls will begin in about two weeks. Also, plans for the elevator in Anderson Hall are being drawn.

TARGET BUDGETS

Dr. Hopper and Mr. Blalock explained the seriousness for VWCC of the proposed Target Budgets directed by the State Council of Higher Education--these 1979-80 budgets would force VWCC to reduce the present 130 faculty positions, for which contracts have been issued, to 116 -- a loss of 14 full-time faculty positions, several new programs already approved would have to be canceled. Dr. Hopper noted that the formula used by the State Council failed to take into consideration the high productivity of several community colleges--Virginia Western ranked second to Northern Virginia in this category--thus penalizing those institutions showing the best performances. Also, our predicted 3% increase in enrollment was ignored in the formula. Dr. Hopper and Mr. Blalock have expressed their deep concern to the Richmond Office and the State Council.

Mr. Dalhouse asked Mr. Blalock to provide him with a factual letter/memo so that he might contact several influential persons who might act on our behalf to avert this drastic situation. Other members of the Committee expressed support for a local campaign.

Dr. Hopper advised that a flip-chart is being prepared and will show graphs of VWCC's growth, faculty/FTE ratio, and other valuable information that has taken place over the years and indicate the sudden decline this proposed target budget would impose on the students, faculty, etc.

The meeting adjourned at 2 p.m.