

**THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE AND LONG-RANGE PLANNING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
VOLUME GLRP 41**

**February 18, 2021**

A meeting of the Committee on Governance and Long-Range Planning was held via Zoom at 9:15 a.m. on Thursday, February 18, 2021.

The following Trustees, constituting a quorum, were present: Amoros, Dambly, Delligatti, Han, Hoffman, Kleppinger, Pope, Potts, and Schuyler. The Governor's Representative Shipley was also present. Emeritus Trustee Eckel was present.

Staff members in attendance were Barron, Dunham, Guadagnino, Harvey, Jones, Kennedy-Phillips, Newhart, Penkala, Stevens and Zeigler-Byers. Constituent Representatives Rowland, and Zhao were also present.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Potts at 9:15 a.m.

New members of the Committee Amoros, Pope and Shipley were welcomed by Chair Potts.

Chair Potts called for a motion to approve the *Minutes* of the November 12, 2020 meeting of the Committee. A motion was put forward, seconded and approved unanimously.

Next on the agenda was the proposed approval of appointing Dr. Sara Thorndike to the Penn State Health Board of Directors. A motion was put forward, seconded and passed unanimously.

Chair Potts then asked for a motion and second to approve the Subcommittee on Long-Range Planning Operating Guidelines. The Subcommittee will serve as a strategic forum to identify long-range trends and opportunities to inform the university's strategic planning process, advance the intersection of the board standing committees with the strategic plan and ensure the sustainability of the university for future generations in order to achieve its full potential as one of the world's great research and teaching universities. It was moved and seconded to accept the resolution. Approval was unanimous.

Chair Potts responded to a question inquiring about the Subcommittee having a chair. She stated that she would serve as chair. The subcommittee brings folks from different disciplines across the board to the conversations of the Subcommittee. The activity, questions raised, and data surfaced will be done by this group and pushed out to the standing committees as well as the full board for discussion.

Chair Potts stated that at its meeting on January 21, the Subcommittee on Long-Range Planning discussed the viability of holding the Board Retreat in July. Since we typically meet at a Commonwealth Campus and this year, we will be at University Park, hopefully, for an in-person meeting, the retreat would need to be abbreviated. The Subcommittee is recommending that a portion of the July meeting, perhaps during the Friday morning session, be devoted to a deep dive on higher education long-range trends and opportunities in order to better understand what the university of tomorrow is going to look like. Working with Lance Kennedy-Phillips and the OPAIR staff, the Subcommittee plans to meet monthly, through June to prepare for the strategic discussions of the full board in July.

Chair Potts referenced the board's Statement of Principle. This document is being shared through each of the current appointing and elective processes in support of reaching our aspirational diversity goals.

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Due to continuing COVID restrictions on events and gatherings, the Board Office will proceed with conducting the election of Trustees by Agricultural Delegates using a telephone caucusing and mail-in ballot process, as we did for the 2020 election. This process will allow the Board to verify and announce the newly elected Agricultural Trustees per the *Standing Orders* at the May Board Meeting.

For the final agenda item, Chair Potts asked Nick Jones and Daniel Newhart to present an update on the Strategic Plan. After the presentation questions were taken from Trustees.

Expense reports for the November 2020 meetings of the Board are available on the portal and the Board of Trustees website for review.

Emeritus Trustee Eckel commented on how delighted he was to see the Governance and Long-Range Planning Committee is putting the time in on Long-Range Planning. Long overdue. Congratulations.

With no other business coming before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Penkala  
Associate Director, Board of Trustees