MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 9, 2020
10:45-11:15 A

Florida Polytechnic University
WEBEX TELE-CONFERENCE MEETING

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Gary Wendt called the Strategic Planning Committee meeting to order at 11:24 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Michele Rush called the roll: Committee Chair Gary Wendt, Trustee Frank Martin and Committee Vice Chair Earl Sasser were present (Quorum).

Other Trustees present: Board Chair Cliff Otto, Board Vice Chair Mark Bostick, Trustee Ala’ J. Alnaser, Trustee Don Wilson, Trustee Bob Stork and Trustee Connor Coddington

Staff present: Mr. Rick Maxey, President Randy Avent, Provost Terry Parker, Ms. Gina Deiulio, Mrs. Kris Wharton, Dr. Jim Mennie, Ms. Michele Rush, Mr. BenMatthew Corpus and Mrs. Kathy Bowman

III. Public Comment

There were no requests received for public comment.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Trustee Earl Sasser made a motion to approve the Strategic Planning Committee meeting minutes of February 25, 2020. Trustee Frank Martin seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. 2020-2022 Strategic Planning Committee Work Plan Review

Because the Committee’s membership is new and Committee Chair Gary Wendt is beginning his role as chair, the committee reviewed the workplan for the next two years. No changes were made.

VI. 2020 Florida Polytechnic University Equity Report

The Committee heard a presentation from Mr. Rick Maxey on the Florida Polytechnic University Equity Report which provides the current status of diversity within Florida Poly’s student body, faculty and staff. While the report identifies opportunities for improvement, it also lays out current approaches and activities intended to address those areas.
Committee Chair Wendt asked President Randy Avent if the seeming lack of progress recruiting minority and female students would make Florida Polytechnic University look unfavorable to the Board of Governors. President Avent responded universities would be chastised for no effort at all and asked Mr. BenMatthew Corpus to cite examples of programs Florida Polytechnic University has in place to recruit these students.

Mr. Corpus touched on recruiting programs such as partnering with the Girl Scouts, utilizing Florida Poly student groups that provide outreach programs for middle and high school students, as well as working with schools that have specific programs targeting females in STEM education. He also mentioned the First Year STEM Program (FYSP), a program where students who meet admission criteria and have shown promise within their high school math and science sources are nominated by a math or science teacher. FYSP builds a pipeline to under-resourced communities, and within this program 55% of the students were Latino and 25% of the students were African-American.

Trustee Earl Sasser made a motion to recommend approval of the 2020 Florida Polytechnic University Equity Report to the Board of Trustees. Trustee Frank Martin seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. Campus Master Plan Update

Mr. David Calhoun gave a progress report to the Committee regarding the update of the ten-year Campus Master Plan. This plan is required by law to be updated at least every five years. The current master plan was adopted in September 2016.

Florida Poly’s update is due in 2021 and it is anticipated it will be completed next spring. The Campus Master Plan must include all facilities desired to be constructed during its ten-year life. The process also requires that six state agencies and the host local community be given an opportunity to review and comment on the plan.

The Campus Master Plan procedure culminates with adoption by this board and submission to the Board of Governors. After the plan is adopted, Florida Poly must negotiate with the host local community to identify and pay for impacts to infrastructure such as roads and utilities which have not already been paid for.

Committee Chair Wendt led discussion on the current campus buildings being able to support the projected 3,000 students within the next three years. President Avent and Provost Terry Parker agreed the current buildings can support the student population but seating the faculty to support the students will be the issue. Provost Parker stated when the Applied Research Center (ARC) is completed, the faculty seating for the 3,000 students will no longer be an issue.

Looking ahead, Committee Chair Wendt hopes there will be 4,000 students by the end of the Campus Master Plan in 2030. He inquired if there are additional buildings in the plan for these students? Provost Parker pointed out the building labelled S4 on the plan as the multi-level student center, will have one level dedicated to classrooms. This will help make the space for the extra 1,000 students.

President Avent referenced the Research Park in helping to build Florida Poly without expecting the State of Florida to pay for everything. The Research Park will bring private companies to the campus, with space for the University to lease.

Trustee Frank Martin is concerned about Florida Poly employees who are currently working at Polk State College and the need to get them on the main campus as soon as possible. He reminded everyone to keep this in mind when looking at distribution of space.
VIII. **Florida Industrial Phosphate Research Institute (FIPR) Update**

The Committee was given an update from Dr. James Mennie on the changes at the Florida Industrial Phosphate Research Institute.

It was created in 1978 and was due for an overhaul of its focus and its alignment with the University’s academic mission.

Dr. Mennie discussed the future of FIPR, including the financial situation of FIPR and the development of new sources of revenue through industry collaboration. This collaboration has generated new revenue streams and will provide employment opportunities for University undergraduate and graduate students as well as recent Florida Poly alumni. Efforts to engage and collaborate with industry are positive and continuing to grow with a focus on commercializing the research activities with the development of intellectual property endeavors.

FIPR engagement and integration with Florida Poly was showcased by Dr. Mennie with FIPR sponsoring two capstone projects this academic year and use of student interns and workers.

IX. **Committee Charter**

Committee Chair Wendt led a discussion of the Committee’s charter and there was unanimous agreement that they would not act on any changes at this meeting.

Committee Chair Wendt and Mr. Maxey will work together to draft a succinct charter that provides high level guidance to the committee. A new recommended charter will be brought back to the committee at its November meeting.

X. **Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.