

## Public Session Minutes

The meeting of the Morgan State University Board of Regents was called to order by Chairman Kweisi Mfume at 12:23 pm.

**Present:** Hon. Kweisi Mfume, Chairman; Rev. Dr. Frances Draper, Vice Chairman, Regent; Hon. Tracey-Parker Warren, Secretary, Regent; Rev. Dr. Harold Carter, Jr., Regent; General (Ret.) Larry R. Ellis, Regent; Dr. Linda Gilliam, Regent; Ms. Hamidah Famuditimi, Student Regent; Dr. Shirley Malcom, Regent; Mr. Martin R. Resnick, Regent; Mrs. Penelope J. Taylor, Regent; Dr. Tyrone Taborn, Regent (via teleconference); Dr. Marquis Walker, Regent (via teleconference); Mr. Winston Wilkinson, Regent; Dr. David Wilson, University President; Mr. Thomas Faulk, Principal Counsel for Morgan State University, Office of the Attorney General

**Absent:** Hon. Elijah Cummings, Regent; Ms. Shelonda Stokes, Regent

The Chairman offered an overview of the agenda and stated that following the Public Session, the Board would convene in Closed Session to address the matters identified as such on the agenda. The Chairman listed those items for the record.

The Chairman then yielded the Chairmanship to Regent Larry Ellis to oversee the Nominations process for 2018-2019 Board officers.

### **Nominating Committee Report**

Regent Ellis called for the report from the nominating committee. Regent Famuditimi presented on behalf of committee Chairman Shelonda Stokes.

Regent Famuditimi stated that the Nominating Committee is comprised of Regents Walker, Regent Stokes, who serves as the Chair and herself. She stated that a meeting was held on Monday, April 30, 2018.

She added that the committee felt that we have never had a more efficient board. The exceptional work of the all of the current officers-The Chair Kweisi Mfume, Regent Frances Draper as the Vice Chair and Regent Tracey Parker Warren as the Secretary- was highlighted and discussed at the committee meeting.

The committee was in agreement that the officers' leadership and unwavering commitment to Morgan is seen in all that they do with the gifts of their time and talents.

The committee thinks that the Board continues to progress in a positive manner under the current leadership and with the current officers.

The Committee all agreed without exception on the proposed slate. The added that they think that the officers have done a phenomenal job in serving this institution and our students. With

that, she said that the proposed Slate of Officers for the Morgan State University Board of Regents for 2018-2019 is as follows:

Regent Kweisi Mfume as Chairman  
Regent Frances Draper as Vice-Chair  
Regent Tracey Parker-Warren as Secretary

She stated that this concluded the committees report. Regent Ellis asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve the slate of officers as presented. It was moved by Regent and SECONDED by Regent to accept the slate of officers for 2018-2019. The MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

All of the officers were given an opportunity to address the Board. They highlighted there thanks to all for the support and confidence in their leadership and service to the Board and to Morgan State University.

### **Chairman's Remarks**

The Chairman again welcomed the Regents in attendance and the members of the public.

The Chairman gave special recognition to Dr. Gloria Gibson for her tenure at Morgan. He presented roses to her on behalf of the Board. He thanked her for her dedication and commitment to Morgan and wished her well as she embarks on the journey as a university President.

The Chairman then recognized Regent Vice Chair Draper who was named the Chairman of the Board at The Afro, the renowned and historical newspaper published here in Baltimore. The full Board offered their congratulations to Regent Draper.

The Chairman highlighted Dr. Wilson's leadership to Morgan State University and asked that the video, "We Gonna Be Alright" created by students and staff and featuring Dr. Wilson be played. The Chairman then called for the President's Report.

### **Report of the President**

Dr. Wilson began by thanking the Board for their confidence in his leadership of the institution.

He then went on to congratulate the Women's Tennis and Softball teams for their winning accomplishments this spring. With the Lady Bears tennis team's 4-1 win over Northern Division foe Hampton in the championship match of the 2018 MEAC Tennis Championships, Morgan State won its first women's tennis title since 1994. This now means two women's tennis titles overall. The women's softball team finished the season with more wins than in the history of the softball program at Morgan. They won the North Division and headed into the MEAC tournament in Florida (May 9-12) as one of the top two seeds.

Dr. Wilson offered an overview of the Economic Impact that Morgan has in the State. He turned to the consulting group that conducted the study for an overview of the project that identified Morgan's significant role in the Maryland economy.

Dr. Wilson offered an overview of his thoughts on the Five Year plan and the priorities for Morgan. He highlighted the priorities outlined in the strategic plan and linked it to the current goals of the institution.

Dr. Wilson then turned his comments to the Middle State review. He stated that from April 8-11, 2018, the University was visited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education as part of the process for reaffirmation of our regional accreditation. The Middle States visiting team was chaired by President Ronald Mason of the University of the District of Columbia and had representation from a cross-section of universities.

He added that, while on the campus, the team met with scores of individuals, including members of the Board of Regents, faculty, staff, students and administrators. On Wednesday, April 11, 2018, the team presented its oral report to the campus. The Chair of the team read his report to the group and indicated that each of the seven standards upon which Middle States bases its decision for reaccreditation of an institution “appear to have been met at Morgan.” The official letter will come from the Middle States Commission, and we expect to receive it within the next 60-90 days. He expressed his appreciation to Dr. Maurice Taylor for his role in overseeing the self-study report, to Dr. Solomon Alao for assisting in this process, and to all others who devoted so much of their time and intellectual resources to this process.

Dr. Wilson offered an update from the Honors Convocation on April 12, 2018. The keynote speaker was Ms. Dia Simms, a 1999 Psychology graduate of Morgan State University, and current President of Sean “Diddy” Combs Enterprises. He added that she was very well received by the students, faculty and others in attendance.

Dr. Wilson informed the Board that when the Legislative Session ended, Morgan realized a \$3.2 million dollar increase in the operating budget and \$46.5 million dollars for capital projects. The additional dollars in the operating budget will support the development of a new Center for Cybersecurity on campus, as well as the conversion of several contractual staff employees to full-time with benefits, and will provide a 2% cost-of-living raise to all full-time State employees effective January 1, 2019. He added that on the capital side, the dollars will enable us to continue our construction on Tyler Hall, the building next to the Library, and to continue our planning efforts to raze the Armory, which we expect to start next summer.

Dr. Wilson informed the Board that the Finance and Facilities Committee convened a week ago to take up the matter of a lease between the University and the developer of the Northwood Shopping Center. This is where we will consider relocating our bookstore in a co-branded capacity with Barnes and Noble, inclusive of a Starbucks Café, he added. The matter was approved by the Finance and Facilities Committee, and he noted that Regent Malcom would present it to the full Board for approval later in the meeting.

Dr. Wilson stated that he was pleased to introduce the new Vice President for Research and Economic Development, Dr. Willie E. May. Dr. May has a distinguished career as both a scientist and administrator with the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST). Starting as a bench scientist and working up through the ranks, Dr. May helped transform an old organization – the National Bureau of Standards – into the world leading measurement and standards institute that NIST is today.

He added that Dr. May has amassed a scholarly record that is very impressive, having published scores of articles in top referenced journals and publications, and has represented the United States around the world. He asked that everyone join him in welcoming Dr. May. Dr. May made



brief remarks thanking everyone and stated that he looked forward to being at Morgan and giving back to this university community.

Dr. Wilson stated that as many of you know, Dr. Gloria Gibson will be leaving the University right after Commencement to assume the Presidency of Northeast Illinois University of Chicago. He said that she has been with us for nearly 3 ½ years, and we have appreciated the leadership that she has brought to Academic Affairs enabling us to get several new on-line degree programs approved by this Board, and leading the effort to refine our tenure and promotion policies, among other accomplishments. He asked that everyone join him in wishing her well as she moves on to another phase of her enlightening career. He asked Dr. Gibson to say a few words.

He also took this opportunity to welcome to the position of Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs– Dr. Anna McPhatter. Dr. McPhatter has been at Morgan for over 22 years, starting in July, 1995 as Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Social Work and Mental Health. Shortly thereafter, she was promoted to Full Professor, and over the years, she has provided outstanding leadership that has resulted in the morphing of the Department of Social Work into the School of Social Work. He added that we are looking forward to working with Dr. McPhatter in this new capacity.

Dr. Wilson informed the Board that plans were underway for another Commencement at Morgan State University. He stated that the Commencement speaker is renowned radio personality Tom Joyner, and the Board has approved the awarding of three honorary degrees: Tom Joyner, Gloria Ladson-Billings and Stanley Nelson. He reminded everyone that Commencement is divided into two ceremonies: graduate and undergraduate. The graduate ceremony would be held on Thursday, May 17 at 10 a.m. in the Gilliam Concert Hall of the Murphy Fine Arts Center. The undergraduate ceremony would be held on Saturday, May 19 at 10 a.m. in Hughes Memorial Stadium.

Dr. Wilson informed the Chairman that this concluded his report. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the President's Report. It was **MOVED** by Regent Gilliam and **SECONDED** by Regent Taylor to approve the President's Report.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2018 Board meeting. It was **MOVED** by Regent Parker-Warren and **SECONDED** by Regent Famuditimi to approve the minutes of February 6, 2018. **THE MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

### **Report of the Executive Committee**

The Chairman provided an update from the April 26, 2018 Executive Committee meeting. He stated that the meeting was informational in nature and added that updates on the agenda items would be offered in the Closed Session of the meeting today.

### **Report of the Standing Committees**

#### **Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

Regent Gilliam stated that the committee meeting minutes of February 6, 2018 were approved. She added that the committee received an update from Enrollment Management as well as a Student Affairs Update and heard from the newly elected Student Government officers.

Following the Student Affairs Update, Regent Gilliam stated that the Committee received a report regarding the Middles States visit to Morgan. The team received positive feedback and felt the visit was a success. They noted that Morgan awaits the final report from the visiting review team.

Regent Gilliam stated that she would report on the recommendation for the 2018-2019 Student Regent in the Closed Session of the meeting.

She stated that this concluded her report.

### **Finance and Facilities Committee**

The Chairman then called for the report from the Finance and Facilities Committee.

Regent Malcom said that the committee meeting minutes of February 6, 2018 were approved.

Regent Malcom stated that there were a number of items for information that the committee heard. She then moved to the items for action. They were as follows:

Approval was requested for increases in tuition rates and fees in support of instruction, instructional support, and other University services for FY 2019 operating budget. The requested tuition and fees increases will provide approximately \$1.9M of additional revenue. The President recommended approval of the 2% increase. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the recommendation. Regent Gilliam moved to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Regent Wilkinson. Regent Resnick abstained. The motion carried with a majority.

The University will submit its FY 2020 Five-Year Capital Budget Request (2020-2024) to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) on June 30, 2018. The five-year request totaled \$264M of which \$46.5M is requested for FY 2020. The President recommended approval of the FY 2020 Five-Year Capital Budget Request (2020-2024) for submittal to DBM. The President would be authorized to make adjustments as future events dictate. Such revisions, if any, would be submitted to the Board at its next scheduled meeting for action. Chairwoman Malcom stated that the board was being asked to vote on a number that will change as feedback comes from DBM. And that the Committee would receive actual numbers at the next meeting in August. There was no further discussion. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the FY 2020 Capital Budget Request. Regent Gilliam moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Regent Wilkinson. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

Regent Malcom stated that Morgan State University has a salary structure for its non-exempt employees comprised of 16 pay ranges consistent with Attachment II (page 87 in the Board package). It is periodically updated to ensure that Morgan offers a competitive salary package when compared to other higher education institutions in Maryland. It had been determined, effective July 1, 2017, that the University System of Maryland (USM) updated their salary structure plan. Morgan requested approval to update its plan consistent with the USM as provided per Attachment II. The President recommended approval of the proposed salary structure for non-exempt employees, effective March 14, 2018. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the proposed salary structure. Regent Draper moved to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Regent Gilliam. The motion carried. Unanimously.

Regent Malcom informed the Board that the University made a request to the Finance and Facilities Committee (FFC) for approval to submit an application to the Historically Black Colleges

Regent Malcom informed the Board that the University made a request to the Finance and Facilities Committee (FFC) for approval to submit an application to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Capital Financing Program through the Department of Education. It was stated that the Committee's approval to submit the loan application did not constitute a commitment to apply. In addition, there was a request to the FFC to approve a borrowing limit of up to \$25M to finance the Public Safety Building (PSB) at Northwood and campus deferred maintenance through this mechanism. The President recommended approval.

Regent Malcom stated that approval is being requested to submit an application. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the submission. Regent Carter moved to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Regent Famuditimi. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

### **Audit and Institutional Assessment Committee**

The Chairman turned attention to Audit Committee Vice-Chairman Ellis for the report/updates from the Audit and Institutional Assessment Committee. Regent Eliis stated that the committee received an update on Follow-up Audits and the status of the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) review at Morgan. He stated that the Follow-up audits is moving along well and tracking well. Regent Ellis added that there were no additional items to report at this time.

### **New Business**

There were no new business items brought forward for the Board's consideration.

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the PUBLIC SESSION to move into CLOSED SESSION. It was MOVED by Regent Taylor and SECONDED by Regent Carter to adjourn the PUBLIC SESSION. The MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The PUBLIC SESSION ADJOURNED at 2:52 pm.