



UMOJA BOARD FINAL MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2018

Via conference call

Approved March 23, 2018

I. **Welcome**

President Aldredge welcomed Board members at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Deborah G. Blue, Erin Charlens, Bernard Jefferson, Jeri Marshall, Judy Mays, Walter Robinson, and Garcel Zardes.

Guests and staff: Julie Adams, Transition Manager.

II. **Consent Items**

a. **Minutes**

MSC (Blue/Robinson) to approve the minutes as corrected.

b. **Credit Card Policy**

Members discussed the draft credit card policy. A recommendation was made to remove the president and make the treasurer the 2nd card holder after the transition manager. The credit limits will be \$5,000 for the treasurer and \$25,000 for the transition manager. Adams will bring back a revised draft policy to the March meeting for approval.

By consensus, the Board approved the draft credit card policy in concept with the understanding that revised draft language will be brought to the March 23, 2018, meeting for final approval.

By consensus the credit card for the assistant directors, past treasurer, and president will be cancelled and credit cards for the treasurer and transition manager will be requested.

c. **Travel Policy**

Members discussed the draft travel policy, particularly the travel time language. By consensus, the Board approved the Travel Policy as presented with the understanding that the final language will return to the March 23, 2018, Board meeting for approval.

d. **Health Director Job Description and Budget**

Members discussed the health directors job description and budget. A request was made to change the URM (underrepresented minorities) acronym to

“African American and other students.”

Members discussed the recommended candidates for the position. The Regional Coordinator Directors have recommended Kenneth Simmons, UCR, and Elroy Pinks, UCD, for the positions. A request was made that the candidates inform their current supervisors of their work on this grant to ensure that there is no conflict with their participation.

By consensus, the Board approved the job description for the Health Director position, the draft budget, and the candidates.

III. Action Items

a. Student Board Member Nominations

Marshall updated members on the Governance Committee recruitment process for the student Board position. An announcement was sent to the coordinators but no applications were received after two weeks. The committee then extended the date for another week in hopes that some applications would be received. The extended deadline yielded two applicants: Andre Washington and Tashaun Claybourne; however, the committee had not interviewed the candidates. Aldredge commented that the Board had hoped to have the student board member appointed prior to the next board meeting so that he/she could attend the March 23, 2018 meeting.

There was a suggestion to have the Governance Committee make the recommendation and have it approved at the upcoming Executive Committee meeting on March 12th so this body could review and approve the recommendation. It was also noted that if Member Jefferson joined the Governance Committee interviews of the student candidates, then all board members would have had an opportunity to have input on the possible candidates. Member Jefferson agreed to make himself available for the interviews with the student candidates.

By consensus, the Board approved the Executive Committee to accept the Governance Committee recommendation for the student board member at their meeting on March 12th.

b. Puente Partnership and Legislative Day

Aldredge updated the Board on recent meetings with the Puente Co-executive directors. Puente has been in existence for more than 30 years and is very well established. Assemblymember Kevin McCarthy encouraged Umoja leadership to work with Puente to learn from their experience with developing the Puente program as it has many similarities to the Umoja Community Program. Puente has also been instrumental in initiating conversations with Assemblymember McCarthy regarding having Puente, Mesa, DSPS, and Umoja

programs removed from current legislation proposed to consolidate categorical funding.

Puente has been an ally with Umoja on many levels.

The Puente Co-executive directors along with Aldredge, Adams and deWit agreed that attending each other's trainings would be beneficial to learning about successful practices each group uses to serve similar student populations. Thus, Umoja Regional Coordinator Directors, Aldredge and Adams will attend the Puente trainings and the Puente Co-Executive Directors plan to attend Umoja trainings. Members agreed that collaborating with and learning from each other would provide opportunities to create student success for both student populations. Concern was raised that the work of Puente, given its long history of success, might overshadow the work of Umoja, particularly by creating possible competition with trainings and conferences. How does Umoja guard against the competition and possible overshadowing? A recommendation was made that Umoja consider formalizing the relationship with Puente so that there are clear expectations of and protections for both organizations.

By consensus, Aldredge and Adams will continue the conversation with Puente and work with them to create a formal relationship where both organizations will continue to be successful.

IV. Discussion Items

a. President's report

Aldredge updated the Board about negotiations with the California Community College Foundation. The Foundation determined that it could not remove the language requested by Umoja from the contract. Thus, we determined that entering into a relationship with the Foundation at this time was not feasible.

Aldredge updated the Board on conversations with the Chancellor's Office regarding the Umoja \$2.5 million grant. The Chancellor's Office project monitor feels that ½ of the grant funds should go to Umoja and the other ½ to the colleges with Umoja programs. In conversations with Vice Chancellor Hope and Perez, it was agreed that the intent of the legislature was to provide all the funds to Umoja. In the most recent meeting, Hope, Perez and Umoja leadership agreed to an allocation of \$1.7 million to Umoja and \$700,000 to the colleges. She also noted that as of this meeting, Umoja has not received any funds but has incurred expenses of at least \$150,000 to date.

Adams informed the Board that a new office manager has been hired and will begin March 12, 2018.

V. Written Reports

No reports.

VI. New Business

No new business noted.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Judy Mays, Secretary
Julie Adams, Transition Manager