



**APPROVED
BOARD MEETING
March 28, 2019
Umoja Office**

*1540 River Park Drive, 2nd Floor Conference Room
9:00 am – 4:30 pm Meeting*

Members Present: Teresa Aldredge (President), Deborah Blue, Darla Cooper, Brenda Davis, Jeri Marshall (Council of Elders), Judy Mays (Secretary), Denise Noldon (Advisory Committee), Walter Robinson (Vice President), Romelia Turner and Garcel Zardes (Treasurer).

Absent: Darla Cooper, Bernard Jefferson

Staff Present: Julie Adams, Transition Manager

I. Welcome & Ritual

Board President Aldredge called the meeting to order at 9:17am. Council of Elders representative Marshall set an intention for the meeting through prayer and poured libation.

II. Consent Items

A. February 26, 2019 Board Minutes

Approved by Consensus

III. Action – Closed Session

A. Executive Director Interviews

The Board conducted interviews with the final candidates for the Executive Director position in closed session. Two finalists were forwarded to HR for reference checks.

B. HBCU MOU

The Board was asked to consider for approval the Memorandum of Understanding with the California Community College Chancellor's Office/Historically Black College & University Transfer Guarantee Project which request that representatives attend the annual Umoja Conference free of charge. Board consensus was not to approve the MOU as submitted. Board members requested that Umoja go back and ask representatives to agree to share the cost by paying a substantially reduced fee which could be encumbered as a line item in the CCCCO/HBCU Transfer Guarantee Project annual budget. Board members agreed that there is justification for the fee given that the colleges stand to benefit from attending the conference if students transfer to their campus. In addition, a request for data on the number of transfer students and retention rates was requested.

C. 2019 Umoja Conference

The Umoja Conference has been confirmed to take place November 1-2, 2019 at the Oakland Convention Center/Marriott. A conference committee consisting of Regional Coordinators, Umoja Coordinators and Program Directors compiled a list of potential keynote speakers for the Board to consider (e.g. Ryan Coogler, Ava DuVernay, Shirley Weber, Angela Davis, Tricia Rose, Angela Ray, Elaine Brown, Jeff Duncan-Andrade, Shawn Ginwright, W. Kamau Bell, Boots Riley, Amanda Seals, Nadine Burke, Michael Eric Dyson, Maxine Waters, Michael Tubbs, Dante Clark, Terrell Strayhorn and Ta-Nehisi Coates). Given the extensive list of possible candidates, Board members requested that the Conference Committee survey students to get a sense of who the students would be most interested in seeing as a keynote speaker. Board members were also open to a new format on the second day of the conference to include a panel discussion during the general session.

D. Umoja Sakhu Tribal Principles

The Board was asked to consider for approval adding a set of Tribal Principles developed by Judy Mays at American River College as something that would be adopted for the entire Umoja Community. Board members requested that the adoption of the Tribal Principles follow a similar process approved at an earlier meeting for adopting or changing an Umoja Practice. A justification along with the intent of the Tribal Principles will be added and brought back for further consideration.

E. Education Summit Action Plan

Board members were updated on the Education Summit action plan. Several questions regarding the process for consideration of an implementation strategy arose and will need to be fully discussed. The Board was in support of holding a third Education Summit at its November 2019 conference, but no further action was taken.

F. STEM Transfer Academy

Board members were briefed on a written proposal submitted by Board members Bernard Jefferson and Garcel Zardes to hold a STEM (i.e. science, technology, engineering and mathematics) Transfer Academy for students this summer. The goal is to increase the pipeline of African Americans in STEM fields. Board members Jefferson and Zardes would take the lead in structuring the academy. The proposal is to fund the academy with money currently set aside in the budget for a student transfer academy.

MSC (Noldon/Robinson) to approve the Umoja STEM Transfer Academy using funds originally set aside for a student transfer academy.

IV. Discussion

A. Budget

The Board was provided clarification regarding the budget that was reviewed in January. It was noted by Zardes and Adams that funds in the Umoja contract are being merged together with the funds in the CCCCCO grant. The budget was approved previously, however, this agenda item was intended to update Board members of the change. President Aldredge suggested that the Executive Committee review the SOW draft then forward to the full board.

V. Information (30 minutes) – Written Report

A. President Report, Aldredge

Based on comments from the Board, it was requested that organization survey all Umoja programs to gather information on issues impacting racial climate on their campuses.

B. Transition Manager Report, Adams

C. Umoja Advisory Council, Noldon – Next Meeting April 2, 2019 at 1:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 4:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Judy Mays, Secretary

Julie Adams, Transition Manager

