

# **FOUNDATION FOR COMPTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

**Facilitator:** Keith Curry, President/CEO  
**Date:** January 21, 2021

**Recorder:** Paula VanBrown  
**Location:** Zoom

## **AGENDA:**

### **1. Welcome**

Paul Simpson

### **2. Roll Call - Members Present:**

Paul Simpson, President  
Daniel Chenault  
Keith Curry  
Paul Flor  
Sonia Lopez  
Vanessa Madrid  
Don Mason  
Edward Magee  
Abdul Nasser  
Heather Parnock  
Rochelle Webb

### **3. Public Comments:**

No requests

### **4. Review and Approval of Minutes from September 3, 2020 and November 5, 2020 –**

Motion to accept minutes of September 3, 2020, with correction, made by Paul Simpson; seconded by Vanessa Madrid. Approved, with correction: spelling of Edward McGee, s/b Magee.

Motion to accept minutes of November 5, 2020 made by Paul Simpson; seconded by Don Mason. Approved.

### **5. Compton College and Compton Community College District Update**

Keith Curry introduced Dr. Abdul Nasser as the new Vice President of Administrative Services. Keith Curry reported the District is applying for a grant with the Kellogg Foundation with regards to race and equity and creating a center on Compton College campus. The grant proposal is due in the next couple of weeks.

Keith Curry also reported that the District has funding from the College Futures Foundation, which is providing a grant writer to work on this grant and will be for a couple of million dollars.

Dr. Keith Curry further reported he is working on a couple of new partnerships with Apple and will be meeting with them next week regarding some new initiatives. One of the partnerships we have now with Apple is our Data Coding Program and remodeling of a couple of classrooms. Dr. Curry wants to expand that partnership to include the film and video program and for new equipment and headsets for our students who have housing and food insecurities. Dr. Curry stated that students were provided with laptops, but they need headsets. He said before he purchases the ones from the foundation, which are Beats headphones, he wants to talk to Apple about this. Dr. Keith Curry stated he would like to roll this out before February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Curry reported the District is receiving a \$6.3M grant from the federal government's Higher Education Act funding. This is a one-time money and \$1.2M has to be spent on grants to students. Dr. Curry stated right now he is looking at what the money will be used for and his fear right now is with the one-time money and also we anticipate by 2024 the state budget revenues to decline. He said he wants to put money aside for general operations, but also to make sure to put money aside for our students. One of the things he has been exploring is that we have to do more marketing and recruitment with some of this money.

Dr. Curry stated that one of the things he feels would be beneficial is how to get students who are in Career Technical Education to come back to our college and provide them with completion grants. For example, if you have a student who was in CTE and had less than nine units completed, let's say, in heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, and if they come back and complete another six units for that one semester, we would give them \$500. This is similar to some other state aid, but we're able to provide them with a financial incentive to come back and if they are able to complete it, it would be more beneficial to us. Not only would we get more money from the state for their enrollment, but they would actually achieve their educational goal. Dr. Curry said they are trying to figure out some new ways to do recruitment, and also provide scholarship incentives for the students. Dr. Curry said the District will be receiving \$6.3M, but he doesn't know where the staff is regarding the submittal to the Federal Government as he turned it over to his staff earlier this week.

Dr. Curry reported that earlier today he met with Palisades Media Group, which Rochelle Webb set up for him. He said it was an interesting meeting and he learned a lot about their organization and their work on diversity, equity, and inclusion. He said he has been sending emails to their vice president to set-up meetings with our Strong Workforce staff regarding internships and workshops for our students. And also with our film and video program for which we just hired an instructor who will start in the spring. We set up a meeting with our dean and that instructor to talk about some additional partnerships.

Rochelle Webb added that their follow-up meeting is scheduled for March 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Rochelle Webb reported that Palisades Media is a large advertising agency. They work with clients like Netflix, the Got Milk campaign, and Bleeker Street Production Company. Oftentimes, college graduates don't realize the advertising industry is a lucrative industry to move into. We wanted to create more awareness around the fact that marketing and advertising are areas of opportunity for our student community that they can approach and create a bridge

of how they can reach those types of opportunities. This aligns with Palisades' mission and hope. They have put together a taskforce this year and want to be more actionable on how they are integrating into the community and want to do things that are thoughtful and authentic.

Rochelle Webb reported that, because of her relationship with the President of the agency and the Chief People Officer, they reached out to her to see if Compton College would be interested in aligning with them, so that's how the meeting came to be. She said Keith Curry joined in on the call and it was a good cross share of their mission and ours and figuring out where do we go from here. Rochelle Webb said Keith Curry was able to clearly outline a three-prong approach to how we can move forward, which includes mentorship opportunities, working with social media, the film department, and paid internships that will give them hands-on and practical experience. And partnerships, which would be like, how do we align some of their clients with the work we're doing to help us create impact in the world and the broader community and which will give us a proof of concept so we can apply for some of these larger grants. The hope is that with those different areas and approaches to our relationship with Palisades, not only can we give our students opportunities to learn and to get paid, but also for us to be able to get access to larger grants and more income for our college.

Paul Simpson asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

Paul Simpson reported that he is the current President of this board and has been involved with Compton Community College since about 2008. Paul Simpson said he is very passionate about education and opportunity and making sure individuals within communities have access to education and have avenues to pursue that passion however they choose. He stated that his background is in strategy consulting, technology, and telecommunications.

Dr. Keith Curry stated that he is the President/CEO of Compton College and has been in this role since 2011.

Daniel Chenault announced that for the last 17 years he has worked as Asset Manager for Southern California Edison.

Paul Flor stated he has been the Dean of Student Learning at Compton College for about 2 years and has been with Compton College since 1997.

Vanessa Madrid stated since 2014 she has been the full-time art faculty person at Compton College and has been teaching since 2004.

Edward Magee stated he is an ER physician in Riverside County at a couple of different places, and clinical faculty at U.C. Riverside School of Medicine.

Don Mason has been an Administration of Justice Instructor at Compton College since 2017 and has been teaching since 1995. He said he is looking forward to working with everyone with the outside of the classroom experience and is excited about the Foundation.

Heather Parnock is the Director of Community Relations at Compton College since 2018, and previously at El Camino College since 2008.

Rochelle Webb reported she has been on this board since 2015 or 2016 and was brought on by Paul Simpson who she went to business school with. Rochelle Webb is an entrepreneur in the fashion and commerce space and is also a Clinical Professor of Entrepreneurship and Marketing at Loyola Marymount University.

Dr. Abdul Nasser stated that started at Compton College this week. He came from San Francisco where he worked for 2 years. Prior to that he was in the private sector – K-12 working in the Middle East. Prior to that, Dr. Nasser said he was in the United States. He said it has been great and he is looking forward to a continued relationship.

Sonia Lopez is the CCCD Board of Trustees President. She stated she has been on the Board of Trustees since 2013. Sonia Lopez is the Deputy Director of Supervisor Holly Mitchell of the L.A. County Board of Supervisors which also represents the college. Paul Simpson asked that Sonia Lopez be added to the roster.

## **6. Subcommittees Breakout**

Paul Simpson mentioned that at the last meeting they discussed getting together in groups based on interest to look at the Foundation's current Bylaws and to look at the Policies and Procedures in the Master Agreement with the District.

Paul Simpson apologized for the logistics of not getting this information out when they said they would, but he is working with Dr. Curry on how to resolve this issue going forward. Paul Simpson said he and Dr. Curry takes these things seriously and looks to basically get us in compliance and operating in a healthy fashion in that regard.

Keith Curry said he has set-up the breakout rooms based on the minutes from the last meeting, of what people signed up for. Don Mason agreed to take the lead on Policies and Procedures, and Paul Simpson will take the lead on the Bylaws.

Paul Simpson instructed the groups to meet for 10 minutes in the breakout sessions.

Return from breakout sessions.

Rochelle Webb reported that she teaches until 5:10 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Keith Curry suggested maybe 5:30 or 6:00. Paul Simpson said 6:00 works better for him. Eddie Magee said it depends on the day, as his schedule changes every week. So just let him know and he can say yea or nay. Keith Curry agreed to do so and said he will send it out today or tomorrow with his availability for that committee.

Paul Simpson said hopefully in the breakout meetings at least one next step was decided, and the groups will be able to get in a meeting prior to our next board meeting in March. If you need any additional guidance or resources prior to those meetings, please let us know.

## **7. Potential New Members**

Paul Simpson reminded the committee they are still in the expansion mode as far as membership, and if anyone has any potential members to recommend please notify him or Dr. Curry so they can start the vetting process.

## **8. Update on Foundation for Compton Community College District Fiscal Review**

Dr. Curry reported that he and Heather Parnock met with Heather McGee who gave an update on the Foundation financial status and requested additional documentation. Dr. Curry said he will assign Gloria Hughes, of the Business Department, to forward the other documents. He said he feels this will be done before the March meeting and he will schedule Heather McGee to make a status report at the March meeting.

Paul Simpson reported that for a while they haven't had an accurate command of the Foundation's books, so one of the things we are asking for is a review instead of an audit, so we all understand what has transpired over the last five or six years. We weren't operating over those five or six years and money wasn't being spent except for scholarships, and that's all restricted funds. Paul Simpson said we are trying to get back to a starting point so we can keep the books properly going forward.

Paul Simpson asked for any further comments or questions.

Dan Chenault asked about membership and if they are looking for a special skill set for this team. Paul Simpson responded that is one of the things we need to create that we don't have as far as a matrix; what's the skill set, the current composition of the board and what skill sets we desire. We don't have it formalized yet. In general, we kind of have the representation from the campus set. We now have representation from the Board of Trustees. So now it's about adding public and private sector folks. We definitely always prioritize fundraising, meaning not just necessarily people who themselves would just cut checks, but more so, people who have an affinity for education and providing access and have either network or the ability to help us fundraise around those efforts.

Paul Simpson reminded the committee that the next meeting is March 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 p.m. and he will get the meeting minutes and package out well in advance. If there are any questions, please reach out to Dr. Curry.

The next meeting of the Foundation for Compton Community College District is scheduled for Thursday, March 4, 2021 via Zoom.