

Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University

**Minutes of the Special Board Meeting**

October 11, 2022

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University was convened on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 in the Golden Eagles Room located at 5500 N. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL. Jim Palos, Chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m.

**Roll was called and the following Trustees were present:** Sherry Eagle; Marvin Garcia; Shyrice Howell; Ann Kalayil; Jim Palos; and Jonathan Stein

**Also present:** Gloria Gibson, President; G. A. Finch, University Counsel; Mary Pat Burns, Board Counsel; Karl Voigt, Assistant Secretary to the Board; vice presidents; staff; and University community members

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**Motion to Allow Remote Participation by Trustees**

Trustee Kalayil, seconded by Trustee Garcia, moved to allow Trustee Carlos Azcoitia to participate in the meeting via video.

Discussion: Trustee Azcoitia provided sufficient advanced notice to the Assistant Secretary to the Board in accordance with the provisions outlined within the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2.01) and the Board's Bylaws, Section II. Meetings, regarding remote participation.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Eagle: Yes	Howell: Yes	Palos: Yes	Stein: Yes
Garcia: Yes	Kalayil: Yes	Serrano:	

The motion carried.

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**Opportunity for Public Comment in Accordance with P.A. 91-0715**

Chair Palos announced the opportunity for public comment. There were 8 requests received in advance and 6 presentations were made.

1. **Dr. Rosita Lopez**, on behalf of the El Centro Advisory Council  
**Topic:** concern about the apparent lack of engagement by NEIU leadership over the RFP related to El Centro development and how it will affect the Latinx and African-American communities
2. **Dr. Gabriel Cortez**, on behalf of ENLACE Leadership Institute M.A. in Higher Education  
**Topic:** update on the ENLACE program and to share insight on best practices in higher education
3. **Dr. Timothy Duggan**, self as faculty; is also the Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate and a UPI member  
**Topic:** to suggest specifics about moving the University forward with respect to enrollment
4. **Dr. Cynthia Moran**, as member of the faculty  
**Topic:** concern about the direction of the University from the perspective as a faculty member
5. **Dr. Katy Smith**, self  
**Topic:** perceived need of relatively new leadership to engage in sustained, intentional focus in understanding NEIU's context and assets as it serves its students
6. **Dr. Olivia Perlow**, on behalf of faculty, department chairs, and the Faculty Senate  
**Topic:** administrative decision-making

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**Items for Consideration and Possible Action**

Action Item I. A. Approval of Recommendation to Adopt FY23 Operating Budget

Trustee Stein, seconded by Trustee Eagle, moved to approve the Finance, Buildings and Grounds Committee's recommendation to adopt the FY23 Operating Budget as revised.

Discussion: Trustee Eagle remarked that the original budget drafts presented in June and September did not account for the actual fall census which turned out to be lower than anticipated by those previous budget versions.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia: Yes	Garcia: Yes	Kalayil: Yes	Serrano:
Eagle: Yes	Howell: Yes	Palos: Yes	Stein: Yes

The motion carried.

Action Item I. B. Approval of Recommendation to Adopt the Preliminary FY24 Unrestricted Operating and Capital Budgets Request

Trustee Eagle, seconded by Trustee Stein, moved to approve the Finance, Buildings and Grounds Committee's recommendation to adopt the preliminary FY24 unrestricted operating and capital budgets request as revised.

Discussion: Trustee Eagle remarked that this budget draft was also revised to incorporate the revised FY23 operating budget figures.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia: Yes	Garcia: Yes	Kalayil: Yes	Serrano:
Eagle: Yes	Howell: Yes	Palos: Yes	Stein: Yes

The motion carried.

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**Motion to Convene in Closed Session**

At 9:44 a.m. Trustee Garcia, seconded by Trustee Eagle, moved to convene in Closed Session citing section 2(c)1 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Discussion: there was no discussion

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia: Yes	Garcia: Yes	Kalayil: Yes	Serrano:
Eagle: Yes	Howell: Yes	Palos: Yes	Stein: Yes

The motion carried.

Trustee Charlie Serrano joined the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

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**Motion to Reconvene in Open Session**

At 11:02 a.m. Trustee Kalayil, seconded by Trustee Serrano, moved to reconvene in Open Session. The motion carried by acclamation.

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**Old/New Business**

Chair Palos asked if there was any old or new business to present. Hearing none, there was no further business.

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**Motion to Adjourn**

At 11:04 a.m. Trustee Kalayil, seconded by Trustee Stein, moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Palos, Chair of the Board  
Karl Voigt, Assistant Board Secretary  
Approved November 17, 2022