



**Minutes of the Oakton Community College Board of Trustees Special Meeting
November 2, 2021**

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Community College District 535 was held in room P103 at Oakton Community College, 7701 N Lincoln Ave, Skokie, Illinois on November 2, 2021.

At 3:03 p.m., Board Chair Martha Burns called the meeting to order and called the roll:

Ms. Martha Burns	Chair	Present
Ms. Marie Lynn Toussaint	Vice Chair	Present
Mr. Paul Kotowski	Secretary	Absent
Dr. Gail Bush		Present
Mr. Benjamin Salzberg		Absent
Mr. William Stafford		Present
Dr. Wendy Yanow		Present
Mr. Akash Patel	Student Trustee	Present

Also in present in Room P103 were Dr. Joianne Smith, President; Ms. Beatriz Sparks, Special Assistant to the Board; and Ms. Elisabeth Lindsay-Ryan, Managing Member of LR Consulting.

Chair Burns asked for a motion to allow Trustees Kotowski and Salzberg to attend the meeting remotely via Zoom. Student Trustee Patel made the motion, seconded by Trustee Bush. A voice vote was called and the motion passed unanimously. Trustees Kotowski and Salzberg joined the meeting virtually.

Navigating Equity, Diversity and Inclusion within Our Organization

Training was provided by Ms. Elisabeth Lindsay-Ryan from LR Consulting, LLC. Ms. Lindsay-Ryan is an equity, diversity and inclusion professor, trainer, and consultant living in the Chicagoland area.

The session served as an introductory training on EDI for the organization. The training focused on foundational frameworks and included interactive discussion and exercises for participants to explore their own lens on building awareness. The session included a general overview of current trends and research about understanding and handling issues of equity, diversity and inclusion. The session also explored identity, oppression, bias, and what it means to use an equity lens on the board level. The conversation included understanding of perspectives, and how they may cause harm, and the role that board members play in both interpersonal and institutional conversations. The focus was to begin a productive dialogue on how to develop a common language moving forward.

At 5:34 p.m., Chair Burns asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Student Trustee Patel made the motion, which was seconded by Trustee Toussaint; a voice vote was called and the meeting was adjourned.

There was no official action taken during the meeting.



Martha Burns, Board Chair



Paul Kotowski, Secretary