The Board of Trustees of Howard Community College (HCC) met in special session on Monday, April 17, 2017, in The Rouse Company Foundation Student Services Hall (room RCF-400) at Howard Community College, Columbia, Maryland. Vice chair Dennis R. Schrader brought the special session to order at 5:35 p.m. Other board members present included trustees Kevin J. Doyle, Steven A. Joss, Felícita Solá-Carter, and Courtney Watson. Kathleen B. Hetherington, secretary-treasurer, was also present. Chair Mamie J. Perkins and trustee Kevin F. Schmidt were absent.

A. Approval of Agenda

A recommendation to approve the April 17, 2017, special meeting agenda was moved by Trustee Doyle seconded by Trustee Solá-Carter, and unanimously approved.

B. Special Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Meeting

President Hetherington thanked board members for attending this special budget meeting. She briefly reviewed the budget development and approval process. She reported that the county executive has included a 5.35 percent increase (or $1,724,832) in county funding for FY18, compared to the college’s request for a 11 percent (or $3,546,274) increase.

Lynn Coleman, vice president of administration and finance, presented the administrations recommendation on a $1,821,442 reduction to the proposed revised budget. Ms. Coleman reviewed the list of proposed cuts. The revised proposed budget includes a 2.25 percent merit increase, a $2 tuition increase, and an increase in the consolidated fee of $3.15 per credit hour of which $2.60 is for debt service on the east garage expansion and $0.55 is for costs related to the science, engineering, and technology building.

Board members discussed the board’s fiduciary responsibility to consider future funding scenarios when making current budget decisions, keeping in mind the possibility of decreased funding from the county and state in subsequent years. Additionally, trustees discussed the importance of maintaining affordability for students and supporting faculty and staff in difficult times. Trustee Watson spoke about weighing the alternatives between merit and consolidated fee increases.

A recommendation to approve the proposed budget as revised was moved by Trustee Joss seconded by Trustee Doyle, and unanimously approved.
Adjournment

A recommendation to adjourn the regular session was moved by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Doyle, and unanimously approved.

The regular session was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

The above constitutes the official minutes of the April 17, 2017, special meeting of the Howard Community College Board of Trustees as approved on April 26, 2017, and is a true and correct copy of the same.

Kathleen B. Hetherington, secretary/treasurer