CALL TO ORDER/OPEN SESSION

Chairman William Small called the meeting to order at 10:02AM. The public notice was read. The agenda (attachment 1) was previously circulated to the members. The invocation was extended by Dr. John Corbitt. The roll was called.

Trustees present: Dr. William Small, Mr. Ronald Henegan, Mrs. Pearl Ascue, Dr. John H. Corbitt, Mr. Anthony Grant, Dr. Gail Joyner-Fleming, Ms. Patricia B. Lott, Mr. Robert M. Nance, Mrs. Cathy Novinger and Carlotta Redish.

Trustees Absent: Mr. Katon Dawson (excused), Dr. Dennis Nielsen and Mr. Robert Waldrep.

Administrator present: Administrative Coordinator to the Board and Recorder Mrs. Eartha Mosley.

Legal Counsels: Mr. Kenneth L. Childs and Mr. Vernie L. Williams.

Media: The Times and Democrat Reporter Mrs. Dale Linder-Altman.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chairman asked for adoption of the agenda. Trustee John Corbitt made a motion to adopt the agenda; the motion was seconded by Trustee Henegan. Vote: Unanimously approved.

Chairman Smalls began the meeting stating that there were discussions among the board members on how we secure or whether or not we should have secured the assistance of an outside counsel for the board in terms of dealing with some legal matters. He stated that he consulted with a number of board members and that the BOT needs to put that question to rest so that we can move forward.

The Chairman called for a motion to affirm the recommendation to hire the Childs and Halligan Law Firm as an independent Board Counsel. Trustee Corbitt made a motion to hire Childs and Halligan Law Firm; the motion was seconded by Trustee Redish. Discussion: Trustee Novinger stated that she’s not opposed to retaining a firm, however she questions the process. She also mentioned that SACS “called us on the carpet” over the issue. Chairman Smalls responded that he’s not worrying about SACS.

Trustee Novinger asked how the firm is being funded. Chairman Small replied, “state funds” which are capped at $150 an hour. The University’s General Counsel is aware of the process; the funds would come from his budget.
The motion was passed 9-1. Trustees Small, Henegan, Ascue, Corbitt, Grant, Fleming, Lott, Nance and Redish voted “Yes” and Trustee Novinger voted “No”.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Chair called for a motion to go into Executive Session to receive legal advice. The motion was made by Trustee Corbitt and seconded by Trustee Redish.

OPEN SESSION

The Chair called for a motion to come out of Executive Session, the motion was made by Trustee Corbitt and seconded by Trustee Fleming. The Chairman shared that no actions were taken while in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:53PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Henegan
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Eartha Mosley
Recorder

Attachment

1. Agenda