

**HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Equity Committee**

Minutes of January 14, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT	Yolanda Johnson, Chair Trustee Gi Charles Epstein Robert W. Gilbert, Jr. Suzanne Parker
MEMBERS ABSENT	
ALSO PRESENT	Christina Royal, Karen Desjeans, Olivia Kynard, and Clara Elliott
CALLED TO ORDER	Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. This meeting was conducted remotely via Zoom.
	<p>Trustee Johnson acknowledged the recent events that happened at the Capitol and provided a space for discussion among the Committee.</p> <p>A motion was made by Trustee Parker and seconded by Trustee Epstein to approve the Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2021.</p> <p>President Royal asked Ms. Kynard to update the Committee on the proposal from the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (EDI) for a new position of VP of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion or VP of Transformative Justice. The College has several equity initiatives across the college, and there is not a common thread to pull it all together in an organized structure.</p> <p>Ms. Kynard highlighted some of the current initiatives on campus and the need for more expertise in this area. She explained that this position would embody the work and collaboration needed to move forward these initiatives under one umbrella.</p> <p>President Royal highlighted a few recent grants focused on equity and the work that needs to be done by the College, including looking at our policies and procedures through an equity lens. There was further discussion about how success would be measured and communicating the many initiatives to the college community. The work of equity is constant and is ongoing – more of a journey over time.</p> <p>President Royal suggested one possible next step is to have a joint meeting with this Committee and the College’s EDI Committee which might help with helpful and informative to both committees.</p>

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ADJOURNMENT	The meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.
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Respectfully submitted,

Karen Desjeans,
Board Liaison to Chair Johnson