

**MONTEREY PENINSULA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
GOVERNING BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
5:00 p.m., Open Session  
Lecture Forum 103  
980 Fremont Street, Monterey, California 93940  
[www.mpc.edu/GoverningBoard](http://www.mpc.edu/GoverningBoard)

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2014**

**MINUTES - REVISED**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Charles Brown called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL** – present:  
Mr. Charles Brown, Chair  
Dr. Margaret-Anne Coppernoll, Trustee  
Ms. Marilyn Dunn Gustafson, Trustee  
Mr. Rick Johnson, Trustee  
Dr. Loren Steck, Vice Chair  
Dr. Walter Tribley, Superintendent/President  
Mr. Maury Vasquez, Student Trustee

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None.

4. **SPECIAL BUSINESS**

A. Review 2014-15 Fiscal Year Budget Balancing Strategies

INFORMATION

Dr. Walter Tribley explained MPC's significant loss of funding, as well as the reasons for our deficit. Our loss of funding is due to legislative pressure to reduce recreational education and repeatable classes, which are in drama, the arts, and physical education. The state's focus is now on academic and vocational funding. The downturn in the economy created a structural deficit which Mr. Joe Bissell will explain. Mr. Bissell also will review the changing state regulations and how that has impacted our budget. Recommendations will be put forward that have the least impact on our core mission. A 5% cut across the board does not make financial sense.

Mr. Joe Bissell and Dr. Tribley reviewed the presentation, "[Budget Balancing Strategies](#)."

Dr. Tribley invited Mr. Gary Bolen to speak regarding the Theatre cuts. Mr. Bolen spoke of the initial proposed lay off of four full-time Theatre employees and its impact to the program. He also spoke of his and Mr. Dan Beck's efforts to devise a proposal that would preserve the program and keep the department active and viable. Their proposal, which was presented to Dr. Tribley, saves two positions: one in the front of the house and one back stage technical position. The proposed cut is 14% from one department. Theatre students will still be able to transfer to a four-year college and enter as a junior. The production schedule will be decreased from five productions to three productions. The newly renovated theatre will be used as intended. Mr. Bolen also explained the challenges faced by the Theatre, including the inability to apply for 2014 grant funding due to the timing of the cuts, as well as the Theatre's efforts to develop a network of community people to help secure funding. He requested time from the college to develop their network and funding and requested a restoration of funds as the situation improves. He also conveyed the type of support the Theatre needs from the community.

### COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- 1) Trustee Rick Johnson expressed hope that Gary Bolen would contact him regarding working with the business community. He also offered to meet with Tony Tollner to discuss the involvement of downtown Monterey businesses and hospitality. / He thanked those present for the many courteous and strong letters they sent to the Board of Trustees and encouraged them to write letters to the legislators, noting that MPC is facing this issue because of what is being done to community colleges at the state level. The Board's hands are tied until changes are made in Sacramento. / He thanked Mr. Bolen for his courage in dealing with this issue rather than giving up. / He stated that MPC will get through this, although it won't be easy.
- 2) Student Trustee Maury Vasquez thanked Mr. Bolen for his efforts on behalf of the students, particularly with regards to meeting their transfer requirements. / He asked his friends and peers—prospective and current students, including those taking theater classes—for their understanding. He stated that we can't continue to spend as we have been and hope that it will get better, but also expressed his understanding of the difficulties presented if we were to cut too much, too soon. He noted that he doesn't want to see anyone get hurt by budget cuts, but added that we'll also get hurt if we don't take budget cuts. This isn't an "us versus them" mentality—the students, administration, and faculty are one. If one part of the school gets hurt, we all get hurt. Students probably face the brunt of that in the end.
- 3) Trustee Margaret-Anne Coppernoll thanked everyone present for their participation, as well as those who took the time to write her letters of their commitment and love for MPC and the Theatre Arts program. She thanked Gary Bolen for his unparalleled passion and love for MPC and the Theatre Arts program, noting her personal experience of Gary's professionalism as one of his students. She conveyed her belief that we all need to pull together and to become more entrepreneurial, as well as her hope that we can work with the MPC Foundation and outreach to communities to get more support for the college. She also noted that we need everyone's support in contacting the state legislators, because they are making the decisions that are severely impacting us. She indicated that she plans to attend a legislative conference this weekend and will make her voice heard.
- 4) Vice Chair Loren Steck noted that no one on the Board wants to make these cuts; this is a response to a hideous situation that originates from the state. He explained that the state developed the *Student Success Taskforce* a couple of years ago in response to the horrible financial situation they were facing at the time. The *Student Success Taskforce* was designed to accomplish some very difficult things, including making wholesale cuts to community colleges. The state is now saying that lifelong learning and community outreach are no longer the purview of California community colleges. He encouraged those who wish to write to the state legislators to focus on those items. He said that the state has a one-size fits all strategy and isn't thinking that there are California communities such as ours where there are many people interested in lifelong learning. Being heard by our state legislators could make a real impact. / Dr. Tribley explained that he has been in communication with Senator Monning, who is very open to ideas that can, perhaps, modify the state's current stance. Senator Monning is aware that some of these rules hurt community colleges.
- 5) Chair Charles Brown stated that MPC's state-of-the art theatre is one of the most beautiful theaters in this area and that MPC is not going to allow it to go away. He reiterated that this issue faced by MPC is not of its doing, nor is it Dr. Tribley's. He expressed his love of MPC, dating back to his time as an MPC student and graduate, and his continued dedication to making it better. He also conveyed his belief that we are going to get out of this situation and will be better than ever.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

- 1) Dr. Fred Hochstaedter, MPC faculty member and President of the Academic Senate, stated his individual opinion that the quiet majority of MPC faculty members support MPC's effort to find a

way to eliminate the deficit and regain financial stability. They also recognize MPC's need to prioritize the programs that most directly benefit students taking credit classes and through which it can directly collect apportionment. The quiet majority supports the Board in undertaking the process to make the painful decisions that will affect MPC and members of the community.

- 2) Ms. Kathleen Rozman, MPC adjunct instructor for 9 years and full-time instructor for 20 years, asked how cutting tutoring positions and using student success taskforce monies in other areas can be rationalized. How are these students supposed to succeed?

#### Theatre Department

The following visitors expressed their appreciation of and support for the Theatre Department and spoke of its benefits:

- 1) Ana Maximoff, creator of the Save the MPC Theatre Facebook page and former student.
- 2) Steven Moorer, Pacific Repertory Theatre Director and former student.
- 3) Koly McBride, co-owner of Paper Wing Theatre.
- 4) Michael Lecovick, former MPC Theatre student. Mr. Lecovick read a letter from June Stock.
- 5) Peter DeBono, Theatre Department Chair for 30 years.
- 6) Michael Kaplan, former MPC Theatre student.
- 7) Denise DeBono. Ms. DeBono read a letter on behalf of Steven Moorer.
- 8) Laura Cote, adjunct Theatre instructor.
- 9) Anna Boland, CSUMB and MPC Theatre student.
- 10) Constance Gamiere, MPC Costume Designer and Counselor.
- 11) Tony Tollner, local resident, business person, and father of an actress.
- 12) Teresa Del Piero, MPC Theatre brochure advertiser.
- 13) Lanier Fairchild, former MPC Theatre student.
- 14) Colin Peter, who has been involved in the Theatre for 40 years.
- 15) Jeannie Barrera, resident of Monterey.
- 16) Christine Bosser
- 17) Steve Retsky, current Theatre employee.
- 18) David Stock, son of the late Morgan Stock.
- 19) Brian Stock, son of the late Morgan Stock.
- 20) Steven Bowings, former MPC student.
- 21) Carol Highland Rosa, former MPC student.
- 22) Melissa Candlebar, current MPC student.
- 23) Laurie Henning, former MPC Theatre student.
- 24) Lauren Holsher, full-time MPC student.
- 25) Amanda Schemmel, CSUMB and MPC Theatre student.
- 26) John Ralley, former MPC student.
- 27) Sean Boulware, Drama teacher and MPC actor.
- 28) Phyllis Davis, local business owner.
- 29) Dani Maupin, working Theatre professional.
- 30) Mitch Davis, community member and business owner.
- 31) Matt Pavelas, community member and former MPC Theatre student.
- 32) Dan Knock, math tutor.
- 33) Pat Stadille, Science and Drama teacher at Carmel Middle School.
- 34) Judy Schwartz, community member.
- 35) Juan Nguyen, community member.
- 36) Sam Fife, longtime student of the Theatre.
- 37) Eric Maximoff, Instructional Aide/Master Carpenter, MPC Theatre.
- 38) Henry Guevara, MPC Box Office Manager.
- 39) Norbert Cameron, community member.

#### Business Skills Center/Nighttime Security

The following visitors expressed their appreciation of and support for the Business Skills Center, as well as their concern for nighttime security:

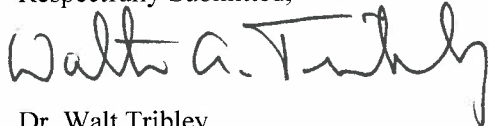
- 1) Vicki Rhea, Business Division Office employee.
- 2) Loran Walsh, CSEA President and MPC Security.
- 3) Art St. Laurent, Director of MPC Security.
- 4) Esther McKay, Business Skills Coordinator.
- 5) Jeff Walker, MPC adjunct instructor.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- 6) Trustee Marilyn Dunn Gustafson thanked everyone for their love, energy, and comments. She explained that the trustees get to see all aspects of MPC's value and quality, not only in the Theatre Department, but also at the Child Development Center (CDC), **in the Science Department**, within Gentrain, and with faculty and staff. MPC is a jewel across the campus. The Theatre Department has the advantage of being eloquent. She wishes the kids of the CDC could talk about how they need their department. **She also spoke of the athletic department and students with special needs who have fought to get their education. She indicated that, as trustees,** we must look at the core values of MPC and make the best decisions to best serve the students. There just is not enough money to do it all.
- 7) Trustee Rick Johnson thanked everyone present for their passion. We know that the compromises are painful and both sides can be angry. Our budget is not enough, but it is where we are right now. Compromise does not meet all needs, but right now that is all we have.
- 8) Vice Chair Loren Steck noted that MPC was hit both by declining enrollments and the state's new rules. He recommended fundraising, taking more classes, and writing letters to the state. He said that he can put together SB 1456 talking points for people who want to write a letter.
- 9) Chair Charlie Brown thanked the students, administration, faculty, and staff for their dedication. He also thanked everyone present for their presence and compassion. MPC is a community. We are going to make this right.

5. **ADJOURNMENT** – Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:40p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dr. Walt Tribble  
Superintendent/President

*Any writings or documents that are public records and are provided to a majority of the Governing Board regarding an open session item on this Agenda will be made available for public inspection in the District Office located at 980 Fremont Street, Monterey, CA, during normal business hours. Governing Board documents are also available on the Monterey Peninsula College website at [www.mpc.edu/GoverningBoard](http://www.mpc.edu/GoverningBoard).*

*Posted March 27, 2014*