Minutes of Proceedings, February 23, 1972

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

HELD

FEBRUARY 23, 1972,

AT THE BOARD HEADQUARTERS BUILDING
535 EAST 80 STREET—BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Here were present:

Luis Quero-Chiesa, Chairman
David I. Ashe
Herbert Berman

Minneola P. Ingersoll
Jack I. Poses
Barbara A. Thacher

N. Michael Carfora, Secretary of the Board
Arthur H. Kahn, General Counsel

Chancellor Robert J. Kibbee
Vice-Chancellor Frank J. Schultz

Professor Ralph W. Sleeper
Mr. Richard Lewis

The absence of Dr. Johnson was excused.

WAIVER OF NOTICE OF MEETING
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The undersigned members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Higher Education do hereby waive notice of a special meeting of the members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Higher Education to be held on February 23, 1972 at 5:30 p.m. at the Board Office at 535 East 80 Street, Borough of Manhattan, City of New York, to transact such business at such meeting as may lawfully come before said Board.

Dated: New York, February 23, 1972

Luis Quero-Chiesa
David I. Ashe
Herbert Berman

Minneola P. Ingersoll
Jack I. Poses
Barbara A. Thacher

At this point the Committee went into Executive Session.
NO. 1. FINANCING THE UNIVERSITY:

WHEREAS, The Citizens’ Commission on the Future of The City University of New York was appointed by the Board of Higher Education in November 1969 to study the future of the University in all its aspects; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens’ Commission after intensive study and careful consideration presented to the Board in September 1971 its recommendations concerning the funding of the University; and

(a) Concerning Tuition Charges at the City University . . .

WHEREAS, The Citizens’ Commission on the Future of The City University of New York, after careful study and consideration, has found that the imposition of tuition fees in the City University would not generate substantial income to either the State or the City of New York; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens’ Commission has found that there exist numerous social and educational reasons for maintaining the no-tuition policy of the City University; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Higher Education has found the analysis and recommendations of the Citizens’ Commission with respect to tuition for undergraduate matriculated students to be sound and consonant with the Board’s existing policies; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Higher Education endorse the Citizens’ Commission recommendation with respect to the maintenance of the no-tuition policy in the City University.

(b) Concerning Financing of the Capital Construction Program . . .

WHEREAS, The Citizens’ Commission has found that the present arrangement for financing the Construction Program of the City University is inadequate to meet the current and future needs of the University; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens’ Commission has recommended to the Board that the following changes be made in the method of financing the City University Construction Program: (1) that the total tuition and fee income collected by the University (aside from student activity fees) be devoted to the support of the Construction Program; that present State law (CUNY Construction Fund Act) be amended to provide for the actual use of such income for this purpose eliminating the State–City contribution in the same amount, thereby removing the necessity for a 50% State contribution to the service of the City University Construction Fund debentures; and (2) legislation should be enacted to require the City to provide, as a separate and priority portion of its annual tax levy contribution to the operational costs of the University, and as part of the annual certification of the City University budget, the balance of whatever amount is estimated by the Construction Fund and agreed to by the Mayor, as required for the ensuing year, to support the debentures of the Construction Fund; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Higher Education, after consideration of the Citizens’ Commission analysis of the University Construction Program, and of its findings that the present arrangement is inadequate to the present and future needs of the University, has determined the Commission’s analysis to be sound and the recommendations to be consonant with the existing policies of the Board of Higher Education and adequate to the present and future needs of the University; therefore be it
RESOLVED, That the Board authorize the Chancellor to initiate discussions with the executive and legislative bodies of both the City and State toward the end of securing the approval by these governmental entities of the foregoing recommendations and the enactment of the legislation necessary to implement the recommendations; and be it further

RESOLVED, That these recommendations and resolutions be communicated to the Mayor, the Comptroller, the City Council of the City of New York, and to the Governor, the Comptroller and legislative leaders of the State of New York.

(c) Concerning the State Contribution to the City University...

WHEREAS, The Citizens' Commission on the Future of The City University of New York, after careful consideration and study, has found that New York City residents are now paying a disproportionate share of the cost of public higher education in the State compared to the benefits received; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens' Commission has found that the City of New York is the only city in the nation to contribute major support to a university system; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens' Commission has found that the funding necessary to the adequate operation of the City University will, under existing funding formulas, exceed the amount which could or should be provided by the City of New York; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens' Commission has recommended to the Board that the State should progressively increase its percentage contribution to the operating cost of the City University from the present 50/50 division with the City to a new level of 75%, increasing its contribution by 5% annually until the 75% level is reached; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Higher Education has considered the analysis and recommendation of the Citizens' Commission with respect to the level of State support for the University and has found the analysis to be sound and the recommendation to be adequate to the present and future needs of the University; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Higher Education endorse the foregoing recommendation of the Citizens' Commission with respect to State support of the City University; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board authorize the Chancellor to initiate discussions with the executive and legislative bodies of both the City and State toward the end of securing the approval by these governmental entities of the foregoing recommendation and the enactment of the legislation necessary to implement the recommendation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That these recommendations and resolutions be communicated to the Mayor, the Comptroller, the City Council of the City of New York and to the Governor, the Comptroller and legislative leaders of the State of New York.

NO. 2. STATEMENT BY THE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION: The Committee accepted, in principle, a statement for transmittal to the full Board for action. (See pages 30, 31).

Fifteen abstained.
NO. 3. STUDENT GOVERNMENTS: Mr. Richard Lewis, Chairman of the University Student Senate, asked that all student government presidents be heard at the February 28, 1972 Board meeting on financing the University.

Motion made, seconded and carried that the Board at its February 28, 1972 meeting, hear, in addition to Mr. Lewis, a student representative of the day session, evening session and the graduate division.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

N. MICHAEL CARFORA
Secretary of the Board