

Bristol Community College
Board of Trustees
Awards Committee Meeting

Building D-209 Conference Room
Fall River Campus

MINUTES

Monday, January 29, 2024
3:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The Awards Committee met on Monday, January 29, 2024, in person in the D-209 Conference Room located in D Building on the Fall River Campus at 777 Elsbree Street, Fall River, Massachusetts. The meeting was called to order at 3:12 p.m.

Trustees present: Renee Clark, Chair of the Committee; James Mathes; and Joan Medeiros, Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Trustees absent: Pamela Gauvin.

Others present: President Laura Douglas and Lucinda Poudrier-Aaronson, Board Liaison.

Committee Chair Renee Clark opened the meeting by welcoming all and ensuring committee quorum.

2. Consideration of Minutes of Awards Committee Meeting for January 30, 2023

Committee Chair Clark asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes of the Awards Committee Meeting for January 30, 2023. There being no questions, Committee Chair Clark requested a motion to approve said minutes.

A motion was made by Trustee Mathes to approve the minutes of the Awards Committee Meeting for January 30, 2023; this was seconded by Board Chair Medeiros. The motion was approved.

3. Review 2024 Award Nominees

Committee Chair Clark said the Awards Committee was meeting to review the submitted nominations for the two awards to be presented by the Board of Trustees at Bristol Community College's Commencement on May 18, 2024 – the Honorary Degree Award and the Distinguished Citizen Award.

The Committee first reviewed eight nominees for consideration for the Distinguished Citizen Award. Unfortunately, two of the eight nominees were submitted with no supporting documents. The Committee felt that the remaining nominees were strong candidates for the Award. After some discussion and question regarding history or possibility of naming two awardees, it was determined and unanimously recommended that two nominees be recommended for the award to the full board (John Bullard and Richard Wolfson).

The Committee then reviewed three nominations for Honorary Degree Award. After some discussion, including specific ties and presence in the Southcoast communities, it was determined that nominee Maria Lawton be recommended for the Honorary Degree Award. Ms. Lawton is very well known in the Southcoast, and has dedicated herself to the preservation of Azorean culture through the intersections of cooking, travel, and storytelling. She is widely recognized for her accomplishments and extensive efforts to elevate Portuguese pride.

4. Select 2024 Award Recipients to recommend to full board on February 26, 2024

Committee Chair Clark requested a motion to approve the recommendations of John Bullard and Richard Wolfson for consideration of the Distinguished Service Award, and the recommendation of Maria Lawton for the Honorary Degree Award. The motion was made by Trustee Mathes to approve the said recommendations and was seconded by Board Chair Medeiros. The motion was approved.

Committee Chair Clark said that the Committee's recommendations for both the Honorary Degree and Distinguished Citizen Awards would be brought before the full Board of Trustees at the meeting on February 26, 2024, for approval as follows:

Distinguished Citizen Award

Mr. John Bullard

Mr. Richard Wolfson

Honorary Degree Award

Ms. Maria Lawton

5. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Clark

Renee Clark, Chair of the Awards Committee

RC/lpa