

BRISTOL

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 4, 2026

1. Call to Order

The joint meeting of the Bristol Community College Board of Trustees and Foundation Board of Director was held on Monday, May 4, 2026, in person at the Fall River Campus in the Building G Atrium located at 777 Elsbree Street, Fall River, Massachusetts. The joint meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

Board of Trustees present: Joan Medeiros, Chair of the Board; Todd McGhee., Vice-Chair (*virtual*); Lynn Motta, Secretary; Renee Clark; Pamela Gauvin (*virtual*); Maria Gonzalez; Jeffrey Karam; Antonio (Tony) Lima; and Steven Martins

Board of Trustees absent: John Morris and Jamie Wasilowski

Foundation Board of Directors present: Frank Sousa, President; Michelle McDonald; Gregory O'Donnell; Luke Travis (*virtual*); and Cynthia Flanagan (ex-officio). The one Foundation Board member present who is also Board of Trustee Chair, is Joan Medeiros.

Foundation Board of Directors absent: Nicholas Christ, Vice President of Board Development; Kathleen MacLean, Vice President of Fundraising; William Kiley, Treasurer; John McMahan, Clerk; Brian Hodess; Liz Isherwood; Christna Johnk; Thomas Kelly; Benita Rose-Monteiro; Thomas Murray; Diane Silvia; and Richard Wolfson.

2. Welcome

- Joan Medeiros – Chair, Board of Trustees
- Frank Sousa III – President, Foundation Board of Directors

Board of Trustees Chair, Joan Medeiros, shared this was her last joint meeting and she welcomed all to the Joint Board Meeting of the Bristol Community College Board of Trustees and Foundation Board of Directors. The Foundation Board President, Frank Sousa, also welcomed all to the joint meeting. It was also noted we had Trustee Gauvin, Trustee McGhee, and Foundation Board of Directors member, Luke Travis, participating virtually.

Chair Medeiros thanked all for attending. President Harris shared we held several topics explicitly for the joint board meeting. He noted the first presentation related to Bristol's Workforce Training Center (BWTC) was a direct outcome and call to action first raised by Brian Hodess at the joint board meeting in December. President Harris invited Tim Brown, Director and April Lynch, Chief Strategy Officer to provide an update related to Bristol's Workforce Training Center.

3. Bristol Workforce Training Center (BWTC) Update – *Tim Brown*, Director and *April Lynch*, Chief Strategy Officer

CSO Lynch and Director Brown provided updates related to BWTC including rebranding of NOWI and alignment with the college's strategic plan including a newly drafted business plan with new campaigns rolling out.

They shared that the workforce training facility was positioned well to target the expansion of high-growth areas including:

- ❖ Offshore wind and Renewable Energy
- ❖ Maritime and Port Infrastructure
- ❖ Construction and Skilled Trades
- ❖ Advanced Manufacturing
- ❖ Blue Economy and Ocean Technology
- ❖ Entrepreneurship Support

They highlighted BWTC's competitive advantage, particularly being in close proximity to ports, strong partnerships in the community, and the size of the WTC location facility being able to serve multiple markets simultaneously.

They highlighted potential challenges as well as a strategically phased approach to expansion (Tier 1, 2, and 3). After an introductory meeting (March 31), this BWTC expansion includes a potential partnership with the Gould Construction Institute which is an education and training affiliate of the ABC Massachusetts.

CSO Lynch and Director Brown opened the meeting to questions or discussion related to the BWTC.

President Harris thanked both CSO Lynch and Director Brown, and then introduced Joyce Brennan, Vice President of Marketing & Communications and Andrea Fortier, Director of Marketing, to present the college's marketing campaign launch.

4. **College Rebranding** – *Joyce Brennan*, Vice President of Marketing & Communications and *Andrea Fortier*, Director of Marketing

VP Brennan and Director Fortier provided an overview and timeline related to the college's launch of a new marketing and branding campaign designed to position Bristol as a key economic driver and leader in education and workforce training in the region.



They reviewed target audiences and key messages for telling the story over time. They outlined the college's presence in the community and within multi-channel media mix. This includes a physical and local presence as well as a digital and streaming reach. They shared the importance of planned Grassroots outreach as well as some additional outreach (press releases, video profiles and featured success stories, and social media presence).

They discussed Bristol advertising on billboards, buses, bus stops, and eventually MBTA. They also highlighted Bristol's digital and streaming presence for television and radio.

VP Brennan and Director Fortier opened the meeting to questions or discussion related to the college's rebranding and marketing initiatives.

President Harris thanked VP Brennan and Director Fortier, and then introduced Judi Urquhart, Chief Advancement Officer, to present the postscript for the Wolfson Speakers Series and an Alumni Affairs update.

5. **Wolfson Speakers Series: Amanda Knox postscript** – *Judi Urquhart*, Chief Advancement Officer

Judi Urquhart announced a special thank you to Richard Wolfson for his continued generosity in making these annual events possible. She shared information including attendance and highlights from the 2026 Wolfson Speaker, Amanda Knox event held on April 30, 2026.

CAO Urquhart shared that Amanda Knox spent over an hour with our criminal justice and paralegal students and faculty and shared in detail her journey of being accused of murder, spending 4 years in an Italian prison, having her case acquitted by the Italian Supreme Court, then being retried and having that acquittal overturned, then finally having the Italian Supreme Court acquit her again.

Ms. Knox was extremely generous of her time. She spoke to the audience for nearly 1-1/2 hours then took another hour to sign books. In fact, 80 of the 100 books that Follett had purchased for the event were sold and most of them signed by her.

In addition to being a public speaker, an author, and an Innocence Network Ambassador, she is also planning to be in Scotland this summer for the Fringe Festival (largest annual gathering of performance artists in the world) where she will be presenting her "Trauma-edu" which, much like her talk on campus, infuses humor into her very traumatic experience.

6. **Alumni Affairs Update** – *Judi Urquhart*, Chief Advancement Officer

CAO Urquhart then transitioned to an update on Alumni Affairs. She shared one of the most recent things we did was change the name of our department from the Development Office to the Office of Advancement and Alumni Affairs. This noted this may seem like a little thing, but it demonstrates that alumni engagement is all of our responsibility, not just under the purview of a single person in the office.

She announced the team is now fully built out. Jenn Harris came on board in December as the Director of Development and Strategic Giving and DT Henry joined us in February, having transitioned from Student Support Services to the Director of Foundation and Community Affairs. She noted that collectively, we are all tasked with alumni engagement and can serve this segment of our constituents—over 40,000 alumni.

And finally, CAO Urquhart shared that Cynde Flanagan will once again be participating in the commencement ceremony and instructing students with newly conferred degrees and certificates on Saturday, May 16th to move their own tassels from right to left indicating they are now proud Bristol alumni.

7. **Adjournment**

Chair Medeiros thanked CAO Urquhart and the other presenters for their updates to the joint boards and invited any final thoughts or questions.

Hearing none, Chair Medeiros adjourned the Joint Board Meeting at 6:08 p.m.