

**Kingsborough Community College
The City University of New York
College Council Legislative Committee**

Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2023

Present: Vincent Cuccia, Matthew Gartner, Joachim Oppenheim, Maria Patestas, Rick Repetti, Paul Ricciardi, Ashiza Shah, Emily Schnee, Michael Spear

Meeting began at 3:05pm

- It was established at the beginning the meeting committee that today's meeting goal is to review what we will discuss at the next CC meeting.
- A question was raised as to how many times the Legislative Committee may want to meet in a semester; it was suggested that the committee may need to meet "as needed" and that there may be quite a few meetings this semester.
- Maria Patestas reported that she attended the Steering Committee...and put the Legislative Committee on the agenda for an informational item.
- A concern was raised as to whether or not KCC was in any sort of conflict with Middle States if our College Council Constitution is still in draft form. MP reported that according to Colleen Davy, KCC is in no violation with Middle States with the current "draft form" state of the CC constitution.
- It was noted that there is a 3-month lead time to get an agenda item to the board of trustees (meets Dec, Feb, March, May, June, October);
- It was noted that the current College Council Constitution contains numerous amendments that have not been approved/brought to the board of trustees...though it is the constitution we are operating under currently.
- It was noted that in the most current draft of the College Council Constitution, there is at least one resolution that was voted upon and adopted in a College Council meeting, and that the wording in the resolution does not reflect the wording that was added to the amended constitution, and that this must be tended to.
- A question was raised as to whether the Legislative Committee needs to present to this discrepancy to College Council. It was agreed that that the voted upon amendment and the language presented at that vote, should be the text included in the constitution. It is also agreed that the discrepancy between the actual amendment and what is inaccurately documented in the draft Constitution is, in fact, considered a typo. This issue will be reported at the next Council meeting.
- There was a long conversation about the issue that our constitution is flawed, that it indeed has many typos and potential discrepancies between the actual amendment (as presented in College Council) and what was actually included in the draft constitution. A

committee member reminded the members present that the College Council Constitution is a living document, that will continue to change.

- The question was raised, “Is this document giving us the governance we need?”
- It was suggested that the Legislative Committee should bring these constitutional discrepancies/typos to the attention of others on the Constitutional Committee.

Suggested Amendments:

- At the end of this meeting, a question was raised regarding a “2/3 vote” which is required to make an amendment to the College Council Constitution—whether it is 2/3 of the entire membership, or 2/3 of voting members present at a particular meeting. It was acknowledged that this was discussed at the previous Legislative Committee meeting and it was agreed that the Committee’s collective interpretation (that we defer to the protocol as outlined in Robert’s Rules of Order) should apply. Amendment submitted on 10/2/23 and must be approved at the Committee’s next meeting.

Submitted By: Paul Ricciardi, Secretary, Legislative Committee

**NOTE: Secretary left the meeting room at 3:58pm