



BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING

November 27, 2023

375 Church Street, North Adams, MA
Microsoft Teams Audio/Video Conference

Trustees in attendance:

Brenda Burdick
Mohan Boodram
John Barrett III
Paige Dufur
Karen Kowalczyk
Denise Marshall
Robert Reilly
Franklyn Reynolds
Jean Clarke-Mitchell

Trustees Absent:

Kathleen Therrien
Frederick Keator

MCLA Staff in attendance:

James F. Birge, President
Lisa Lescarbeau, Clerk

All participants attended remotely.

As allowed by executive order of the Governor of Massachusetts, in compliance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30 and 15A, Section 9, and with a quorum present via audio/video conference, the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts met on November 27, 2023, with Board Chair Burdick presiding.

Chair Burdick called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Chair Burdick reviewed the agenda consisting of honorary degree recipients, as discussed at the Executive Committee of the Board meeting of November 14, 2023, and referred to the full board for consideration.

President Birge noted that he is asking for honorary degree (HD) consideration of only Dr. Stephen Green at this special meeting.

Dr. Green was a long-time faculty member and administrator at MCLA and NASC. He was well known as a community advocate and for his work with a number of non-profit organizations including the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition and the Al Nelson Friendship Center.

Sadly, Steve passed away earlier this year and his family asked if MCLA would host a celebration of life, which was subsequently scheduled for December 2, 2023. As part of this celebration, President Birge requested that the Board approve the conferral of an honorary doctorate upon Dr. Green for both his work with and for the College, and his community activism.

A motion was made and seconded to confer an honorary doctorate upon Dr. Green. The motion was further amended to state that the HD would be for Public Service. With no further discussion, it was unanimously:

VOTED: to approve the conferral of an Honorary Doctorate of Public Service, posthumously, upon Dr. Stephen Green at the December 2, 2023, celebration of his life hosted by MCLA.

Adjournment

With no other business being brought before the meeting, upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously:

VOTED: to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m.