



Staff Council

Thursday, April 16, 2026
Meeting 7
1:00-3:00 p.m., Zoom

MINUTES

Members Present: Nghi Nguyen (Chair), Yvonne Hu-Cotto (Vice Chair), Geraldine Papillero (Secretary), Niffer Gottwald, Carlo Sanchez, Dilrukshi Jayasekera, Vickie Drake, Maria Martinez, Nelida Andres, Christine Moya Crawford.

Absent: Betsy Leonard, Staci Griffin, Brady Patton

Proxy: Geraldine Papillero for Betsy Leonard, Yvonne Hu-Cotto for Staci Griffin, Niffer Gottwald for Brady Patton

Liaison: Dr. Michelle Campbell, Senior Vice President for Advancement and Community Engagement (Amy Ballard)

Guest Speaker(s): Susan Madden, Megan Cooperman

Guests: Fizie Haleem, Aminata Kamara, Debra Bouyer, Rosa Trigo, Amanda Farahati, Janice Du Four, Michelle Chan, Sepy Yousefi, Maria Davidson, Angie Moy, Tracey Romney, Yvette Taylor, Clevette Ridguard

Call to Order

- There was a quorum to conduct business. Nghi Nguyen (Chair) called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

Meeting Minutes

- The April 16, 2026, meeting agenda was approved with changes.
- The minutes for March 12, 2026, minutes are approved with changes.

Constituent Concerns

- No concerns.

Chair's Report

- See Chair's Report

MC Wellness Updates

Megan Cooperman, Employee Wellness Specialist

- Headspace App
 - Offers science-backed tools including guided meditations, mindfulness exercises, and sleep aids.
 - Free for Cigna and Kaiser health insurance members.
- Omada
 - Free for Cigna and New Kaiser Health Insurance Members
 - A virtual, evidence-based chronic care program designed to help individuals manage diabetes, hypertension, etc.
- Equity Walk/Run (3K), Rockville Track, 12:15 p.m.
- Deadline for Wellness EAP is June 30!
- Your input is needed, contact Megan. What workshops/classes do you need?
- Check [Wellness website](#) for all events

Government Relations Updates

Susan Madden, Chief Government Relations Officer

- FY27 Capital Funds: \$9.8m
 - Rockville Campus Library renovation: \$5.6m for construction
 - Theatre Arts modernization: \$4.2 for design
- \$6.3m in new funds for FY27
 - Compensation adjustments
 - Part-time faculty for enrollment growth
 - Affordable tuition
- Capital Budget: \$499.7m for six years
 - Key projects: Theatre Arts Building and Information Technology
- Timeline
 - County Executive Operating Budget: March 13
 - Legislature adopts budgets: April 6
 - Council operating budget hearings: April 7, 8, 9
 - Council work session: February to May
 - Council adopts budgets: May 21
- County Executive did include the \$6.3m in his budget recommendations
- Write to MC Councilmembers, BCC College Council

Staff Enrichment Day 2026 Post-Event Updates

- 360+ attendees
- 52 workshops: 28 morning/24 afternoon
- 556 staff participated in the combined 52 workshops
- 27 vendors participated in the Vendor Fair
- 450 lunch boxes ordered
- 14 committee members
- 30 volunteers
- 12 administrator volunteers
- Review the Executive Summary and Report

Constituent Concern Report Overview

- Most of our concerns have been closed
- Concerns that are still pending will be revisited in the fall with the next council team
- Review will be due end of May to College Council
- Review the Constituent Concern Report

Council Member Updates

- Niffer Gottwald provided a demo of Banner updates.
- If we don't have an increase for FY27, could we ask for a week off?
- Paid family and medical leave is coming to Maryland
 - Starting January 2028, eligible employees will be able to take up to 12 weeks of paid, job-protected leave. Employees will be able to welcome a new child, tend to a serious health condition, care for a loved one, or manage urgent family needs related to deployment—while still being paid up to \$1,000 per week.

Adjourned

- The meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m., following a motion by Vickie Drake and seconded by Maria Martinez.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETINGS

May 7

Submitted by

Geraldine Papillero, Staff Council Secretary