

**BOARD OF VISITORS  
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

**Special Meeting of  
December 14, 2023  
Merten Hall, Hazel Conference Room (1201)**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Rector Horace Blackman, Vice Rector Jon Peterson, Secretary Mike Meese, Visitors Armand Alacbay, Reginald Brown, Lindsey Burke, James Hazel, Robert Pence, Nancy Prowitt and Robert Witeck.

**PRESENT VIRTUALLY:** Visitors Dorothy Gray and Dolly Oberoi.

**ABSENT:** Visitors Anjan Chimaladinne, Wendy Marquez, Jeffrey Rosen and Charles Stimson.

**ALSO, PRESENT:** Gregory Washington, President; Ken Walsh, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President; Deb Dickenson, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration; Anne Gentry, University Counsel; Marvin Lewis Assistant Vice President and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, Intercollegiate Athletics; Andrew Lieber, Senior Associate Athletics Director, Capital Planning, Facilities & Events, Intercollegiate Athletics; Jackie Ferree, Senior Vice President, Operations and Business Services, Rose Pascarell, Vice President of University Life and Sarah Hanbury, Secretary pro tem.

**I. Call to Order**

Rector Blackman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**II. Closed Session**

- A. Public Contract (Code of VA: §2.2-3711.A.29)
- B. Consultation with Legal Counsel pertaining to actual or probable litigation (Code of VA: §2.2-3711.A.7)
- C. Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice (Code of VA: §2.2-3711.A.8)

Vice Rector Peterson **MOVED** that the Board go into Closed Session under the provisions of Section 2.2-3711.A.29 to discuss a Public Contract related to a potential shared Cricket/Baseball Stadium; Section 2.2-3711.A.7, for Consultation with legal counsel pertaining to actual or probable litigation including a briefing on:

Wright v. GMU et al.

and Section 2.2-3711.A.8 for Consultation with Legal Counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice concerning the aforementioned items, university policy and student disciplinary matters. The motion was **SECONDED** by Secretary Meese. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

Yes – 12

Absent – 4 – Visitors Chimaladinne, Marquez, Rosen and Stimson.

Following closed session, Secretary Meese **MOVED** that the Board go back into public session and further moved that by roll call vote the Board certify that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Board. Any member of the Board who believes that there was a departure from the requirements as stated above, shall so state prior to the vote, indicating

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the substance of the departure that, in his or her judgment, has taken place. **ALL PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS RESPONDED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY ROLL CALL.**

Yes – 9

Absent – 7 – Visitors Chimaladinne, Hazel, Marquez, Oberoi, Peterson, Rosen and Stimson.

Rector Blackman relayed that in accordance with the Electronic Meeting Policy, Visitors Gray and Oberoi requested to participate remotely due to a personal matter. Due to both Visitors being out of state, the Rector approved their remote participation requests, and as such voting would be accomplished by roll call.

Rector Blackman **MOVED** that the Board authorize the University to enter into a ground lease in furtherance of a shared temporary cricket/baseball stadium consistent with the terms discussed in closed session; and specifically authorizes the President or Provost to execute such ground lease and any other documents, instrument or certificates as may be deemed necessary or desirable to further carry out the purposes and intent of this resolution consistent with the terms discussed in closed session. The motion was **SECONDED** by Visitor Witeck. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

Yes – 7

Abstain – 2 – Visitors Gray and Pence.

Absent – 7 – Visitors Chimaladinne, Hazel, Marquez, Oberoi, Peterson, Rosen and Stimson.

### III. Adjournment

Rector Blackman called for any additional business to come before the Board. Secretary Meese reminded the Board to file their annual financial disclosure through the Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council portal between January 1, 2024, through February 1, 2024. He noted that the next BOV meeting is February 22, 2022. Rector Blackman adjourned the meeting at 2:07 p.m.

Prepared by:

Sarah Hanbury  
Secretary pro tem