

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

December 15, 1983
10:30 - 11:10 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Fred R. Sheheen, Chairman
Mr. George L. Brightharp
Dr. Willa J. DeWitt
Mr. Robert C. Gallagher
Mr. Robert E. Graham
Mr. Harold W. Jacobs
Dr. Alba M. Lewis
Mr. David B. Smith
Mr. Mortimer F. Smith
Mr. Robert L. Utsey, Jr.
Dr. Robert F. Williams
Mr. Robert L. Wynn III

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Roosevelt Gilliam, Jr.
Mrs. Nanette H. Smyth
Mrs. Nelle H. Taylor
Dr. Hugh H. Wells
Dr. Louis D. Wright, Jr.

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS

Ms. Stacy Allison
Ms. Olivia Dorn-Kennedy
Ms. Cheryl Irwin
Mr. Scott Johnson
Mr. Charlie Keyes
Mr. Duncan Mansfield
Ms. Charlene Porter
Mr. Frank Sayles
Mr. Howard Schneider
Mr. Kim Smith
Mr. Jim Tharpe

GUESTS

Dr. Jo Anne Anderson
Mr. Stephen Elliott
Dr. H. M. Holderfield
Dr. Larry A. Jackson
Dr. Carolyn McIver
Mr. J. Lacy McLean
Dr. Terry Peterson
Mr. Tony Snell

STAFF

Dr. Howard R. Boozer
Mr. Charles A. Brooks, Jr.
Mrs. Denise L. Jones
Dr. Frank E. Kinard
Mr. Alan S. Krech
Mr. Cannon R. Mayes
Dr. James A. Paschal
Ms. Alvena M. Smarr
Dr. John C. Sutusky
Mrs. Gaylon Syrett
Mrs. Carol D. Waldo

I. Consideration of "Position Paper on the Improvement of Educational Opportunity in South Carolina"

Mr. Sheheen noted that the Commission adopted on November 3, 1983, a Position Paper on the Improvement of Educational Opportunity in South Carolina, setting forth its views on the current initiative to improve education in the State. He reported that as the debate on the educational initiative has broadened the Commission deems it desirable to elaborate on the views presented in that position paper and to inform the Governor, the General Assembly, and the public of its additional views on the matter.

A proposed additional position paper stresses the importance of adequate funding for all of public education, including the postsecondary components, as was also the case in the November 3 paper. The second paper also indicates the Commission's support of the educational programs in the "New Approach to Quality Education" developed by two blue-ribbon committees and publicly presented by Governor Riley. The Executive Committee recommends that the proposed additional "Position Paper on the Improvement of Educational Opportunity in South Carolina" be approved. It was moved (Gallager) and seconded (Jacobs) that the recommendation of the Executive Committee be adopted.

Mr. Sheheen invited Commission members to comment on the proposed paper. All of those present spoke concerning the position paper. Mr. Utsey expressed concern that additional revenue "beyond that being generated by current tax levies" is recommended in the paper. At the invitation of the Chairman, President Jackson congratulated the Executive Committee, on behalf of the Council of Presidents, for developing the additional position paper. The motion was adopted, with Mr. Utsey opposing. The position paper is attached as Exhibit A.

It was moved (M. Smith), seconded (Wynn), and voted that it is the conviction of the Commission that all funds for all public education must be expended under such sound business principles as to inspire greater public confidence in the educational process.

Mr. Sheheen expressed appreciation to members of the staff who worked with the Executive Committee in preparing the position paper.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gaylon Syrett
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Recording Secretary