

Minutes of the Assembly Meeting on June 20, 2024

Streaming link - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wVtog_ckZd8&t=629s

1. Opening and Approval of Minutes

- **Presiding Officer:** Allen Norin
- **Minutes Approval:** The minutes of the previous assembly meeting were approved with minor corrections.

2. Report by Dr. Riley

- **Budget Discussion:**
 - New York State budget implications for Downstate, including a \$400 million allocation: \$100 million for operations and \$300 million for capital.
 - Establishment of a nine-member Community Advisory Board to provide recommendations on using funds and hospital revitalization.
 - **Advisory Board Composition:** Presented by President Riley. As of the assembly meeting date, not all positions have been filled, nor has the Board met.
- **Downstate University Hospital Transformation:**
 - Intense community and political lobbying helped avoid the closure of inpatient services.
 - Emphasis on continued and expanded services for the Brooklyn community.
 - Specific mention of contributions from Senator Zellnor Myrie and other local leaders.

3. Middle States Accreditation

- **Self-Study and Review:**
 - Kickoff in 2022 with self-study groups.
 - Final report submission by December.
 - Site visit scheduled for April 2025.

4. Cafeteria Project

- **Progress and Phases:**
 - Phase 1 completion in September 2024.
 - Expanded seating, new restrooms, and mechanical rooms.
 - Full project completion by November 2025.

5. Parking Issues

- **Disruptions and Solutions:**
 - Loss of 225 Clarkson parking locations, impacting 150 spaces.
 - Temporary solutions include valet parking and shuttles.

- Emphasis on completing the parking survey for proper reallocation.

6. Faculty Involvement and Communication

- **Advisory Board Interaction:**
 - Faculty encouraged to engage in public hearings and provide feedback on hospital services.
 - Strategic planning and collaboration with faculty governance groups and UUP.

7. Kidney Transplant Program

- **Transition and Continuation:**
 - Dr. Rochon's departure and transition to Dr. Suresh.
 - Recruitment of a new transplant surgeon, ensuring program continuity.

8. Executive Committee Membership

Officers of the Executive Committee: PO Norin showed the composition of the membership, the officers of the Executive Committee. As of the Assembly meeting to date, not all positions on the Advisory Board have been filled, nor has the Board met.

PO Norin also reported that the Executive committee had a 30-minute Zoom meeting with the Chancellor and his staff. The Chancellor explained that he had recommended the closure of inpatient services at the hospital because there were insufficient funds to repair the facility. However, since up to \$760 million had been allocated, the hospital could continue to provide inpatient services.

9. General Announcements and Questions

- **Open Floor for Questions:**
 - Discussion on emergency department expansion and patient care.
 - The importance of improving facilities and services is highlighted.

10. Adjournment

- **Next Steps:**
 - Future meetings and faculty involvement in strategic planning emphasized.
 - Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.