



Joseph Roman for his upcoming retirement from a successful 36-year career, and noted that he provided valuable insight and input in his role as a community trustee.

Trustee Adler moved the resolution and Trustee Reynolds seconded the motion. The following resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

**RESOLUTION 2021-12**

**RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER JOSEPH ROMAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees were amended on January 20, 2006 to expand the Board's membership and expertise with other faculty and community members to serve as nonvoting members; and

**WHEREAS**, Joseph Roman was first appointed as a Community Board Member in September 2016 and was reappointed in 2018 and 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2020, after a 36-year career in economic development, culminating in serving as

**RESOLUTION 2021-13**  
**RECOGNITION OF STUDENT TRUSTEE ALLISON YOUNGER**

**WHEREAS**, Allison Younger was appointed by Governor Mike DeWine to the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees as a Student Trustee on June 21, 2019, for a term ending on May 1, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Younger will graduate this spring as a triple major in criminology, sociology and philosophy pre-law and has demonstrated outstanding achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, as a valuable member of the Cleveland State University student body, Ms. Younger serves as the President of The 1964 Society, which connects students to alumni, while also being a Presidential Student Ambassador through the organization; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Younger is very active in Greek life as a collegiate member of Phi Mu Rho Lambda and is also a member of the Pre-Law Fraternity, Phi Alpha Delta for undergraduate students; and

**WHEREAS**, during her service as a student trustee, Ms. Younger has consistently advocated for the needs of her fellow students, ensuring that the voice of the student is always front and center in board discussions:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on behalf of the Cleveland State University community, the Board of Trustees extends its deepest appreciation to Allison Younger for her dedicated leadership and service as a student trustee and wishes her all the best as she enters law school at the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in the fall semester.

Chair Gunning acknowledged that the choice of Cleveland State as a mass vaccination center illustrates the University's important role for vaccine access in the region. The vaccine center is being recognized in the press for successful operations and ease of use, and the Chair thanked President Sands and his senior staff, faculty members, CSU police services, facilities support, and students for their efforts in supporting the process.

He also congratulated all student athletes on their achievements in the classroom and in their sports, including successful seasons for women's basketball, wrestling (with three participants in the NCAA tournament), swimming, volleyball, and culminating with men's basketball, under Coach Dennis Gates' leadership, reaching the NCAA March Madness tournament for the first time since 2009.







**WHEREAS**, the financial deficits anticipated as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic have been reduced through expense management initiatives and receipt of stimulus funds; and

**WHEREAS**, Cleveland State University has effectively preserved liquidity during the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the Administration recommends that the University's investment portfolio return to the objectives and management strategy as outlined in the University's Investment Fund Rule 3344-64-03 which includes the preservation of capital while providing long-term growth of principal with limited exposure to risk:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Financial Affairs Committee of the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees approves return to the objectives and management strategy as outlined in the University's Investment Fund Rule 3344-64-03.

#### **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair Adler updated the Board on the nomination and election process for the 2021-2022 slate of officers to be elected at the annual Board meeting in May. The Nominating Committee consists of Chair Gunning, Trustees Kunkle and Whiting, and himself; Trustee Adler will call a meeting of the committee in the next month.

#### **REPORT OF THE CSU FOUNDATION**

CSU Foundation Chair and Trustee Hopkins, reported on fundraising efforts, including the May 6 Radiance event; the virtual event may allow for an expanded number of participants and donors. He noted that the assistance to students through Radiance funds has been expanded to support the student success continuum, including the 2-for-1 Tuition Promise and Lift Up Vikes; he also reinforced the benefits of the event in that the funds have supported more than 2,000 students since the inception of the event.

University Advancement Vice President Rehm updated the Board on FY21 attainment and annual giving progress, noting that the end-of-year \$11 million goal is in reach, but that fundraising during the pandemic has been challenging. Factors including the call center being closed due to safety concerns and donors choosing to assist immediate needs organizations, such as food banks, may have an effect on giving to higher education. Dr. Rehm acknowledged that corporate giving has lagged this year, due to uncertain financial stability throughout the pandemic. New strategic

hires in the Advancement division will have a positive impact on cultivation and solicitation in all constituent types.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Reynolds moved to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing imminent and pending litigation with University General Counsel and personnel matters involving the employment, compensation and contracts of public employees. Trustee Kunkle seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken by the Secretary of the Board; voting in the affirmative were Mr. Adler, Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. DePompei, Mr. Kirk, Mr. Komoroski, Ms. Kunkle, Mr. Reynolds, Ms. Whiting, and Chair Gunning. The motion carried.

Chair Gunning excused everyone except the voting and community trustees present, President Sands and General Counsel and Board Secretary Wilson. The executive session began at 9:40 a.m.

Chair Gunning announced at 10:44 a.m. that the Board had finished its business in Executive Session and was returning to its regular meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Gunning announced that a resolution is being brought forth as a result of the Executive Session. He enthusiastically reported that in order to build upon a successhat





FY21 projected budget deficit, restoration of temporary faculty and staff pay reductions, investing in our academic mission with the hiring an additional forty new faculty for the second consecutive year, and the launch of the CSU 2.0 process paving the way for a stronger, thriving and more efficient university; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees is extremely grateful for President Sands' many accomplishments thus far and has full faith and confidence that he will continue to lead this institution on an upward trajectory towards its true potential; such that the Board has offered to extend his employment agreement for a term of three years, ending on June 30, 2026, and he has accepted such offer:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the extension of President Harlan M. Sands employment agreement for an additional three years and delegates to the Executive Committee of the Board further negotiation and execution of the terms and conditions thereto.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Gunning announced that the Annual Meeting scheduled for May, might be held in a hybrid-style, with safety precautions in place.

There being no further business, Trustee Reynolds moved to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Whiting seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**APPROVED ON MAY 20, 2021**

Sonali B. Wilson  
General Counsel and  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

**APPROVED ON MAY 20, 2021**

David H. Gunning II  
Chair, Board of Trustees