

The MetroHealth System Board of Trustees

STRATEGY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

1:00pm - 3:00 pm

MetroHealth Board Room (K107) / Virtual

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present: Artis Arnold-I, Nancy Mendez-R, E. Harry Walker MD-R¹

Other Trustees Present: Ronald Dziedzicki-I, John Moss-R

Staff Present: Christine Alexander-Rager, M.D.- I, Rita Andolsen-I, Bridget Barrett-I, Peter Benkowski-I, Romona Brazile-R, Kate Brown-R, Jon Campanelli-I, Cindy Gallaspie-I, Robert Glick-R, Joseph Golob, M.D.-I, Robert Hakes-I, Vanessa Ho, M.D.-I, Kinsey Jolliff-R, Brian Kovach-I, Timothy Magaw-I, Christina Morales-I, Dr. Candace Mori-I, Cristina Nickell-I, Allison Poullos-I, Amanda Roe-I, Jeff Rooney-I, Tamiyka Rose-I, Brendan Sorg-I, Deborah Southerington-I

Invited Guests: Galen Schuerlein-R

Other Guests: Guests not invited by the Board of Trustees are not listed as they are considered members of the audience and some were not appropriately identified.

Artis Arnold called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm, in accordance with Section 339.02(K) of the Ohio Revised Code.

(The minutes are written in a format conforming to the printed meeting agenda for the convenience of correlation, recognizing that some of the items were discussed out of sequence.)

I. Welcoming & Opening Comments

The Strategy Committee Chair, Rev. Artis Arnold, welcomed trustees, staff, and committee participants and provided opening remarks. Mr. Arnold referenced prior Board retreat discussions that emphasized the Board's responsibility, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 339, to be actively engaged in strategic planning. Mr. Arnold expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve as Committee Chair and acknowledged the contributions of the Strategy, Marketing, Communications, and Government Relations teams in advancing the MetroHealth mission.

¹ I – In-person, R – Remote

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Mr. Arnold invited opening comments from the Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, Peter Benkowski, who thanked Committee members for their participation and engagement. Mr. Benkowski provided background on the reactivation of the Strategy Committee, noting that Board feedback during prior strategic planning discussions and the Enterprise Strategic Plan process highlighted the desire for more active Board involvement. Mr. Benkowski noted that the Committee previously played an important role in earlier strategic initiatives, including the MetroHealth 2030 strategic partnership process.

II. Objectives of the Committee

The Committee discussed the objectives and scope of the Strategy Committee. Leadership emphasized that the Committee's role extends beyond traditional strategy review to include Marketing, Communications, and Government Relations, recognizing the interdependent nature of these functions, which are critical to shaping long-term strategy. Committee leadership stressed the importance of active participation and dialogue, indicating that future meetings are intended to be interactive and discussion-based rather than focused on extensive presentations. Members were encouraged to provide feedback on topics of interest to ensure alignment with both Board priorities and organizational needs. The Committee Chair further noted that the Strategy Committee functions as an enterprise-wide committee and must remain closely aligned with other Board committees.

III. Review of the Strategy Committee Charter

The Committee reviewed the Strategy Committee Charter. Mr. Benkowski provided background on the development and revision of the charter, noting that the document was structured to align with the format and governance standards of other Board committees. Legal counsel was consulted during the drafting process to ensure compliance with applicable governance requirements. Revisions were made to clarify the Committee's scope and objectives, particularly related to Strategy, Marketing, Communications, and Government Relations. Subject matter leaders from each functional area provided input on the revisions. Both a redlined version and a clean version of the revised charter were included in the Board materials. Mr. Benkowski noted that, because changes were made following earlier approval, the revised charter will be returned to the Governance Committee for review and approval at a future meeting. The revisions were described as clarifying in nature and intended to better define the Committee's role and direction.

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IV. Executive Session

Mr. Arnold asked for a motion to move into executive session to discuss hospital trade secrets as defined by ORC 1333.61; and to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public official, and to conference with the public body's attorney to discuss disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court as defined by ORC 121.22(G). Dr. Walker made a motion and Ms. Mendez seconded. The Board held a roll call vote with all Trustees in attendance voting to approve the motion to go into executive session for the purposes stated by Mr. Arnold. Members of the public were excused, and the Board went into executive session to discuss the identified matters at approximately 1:09pm

V. Return to Open Meeting

Following the executive session, the meeting reconvened in open session at approximately 2:26 pm and welcomed back the public virtually and those members of the public who remained in-person.

VI. Meeting Cadence for 2026 and Next Meeting

The Committee then discussed the meeting cadence for calendar year 2026. Leadership expressed that additional meeting time would be beneficial to adequately address strategic initiatives. As a result, two additional Strategy Committee meetings were proposed. The proposed meeting dates were March 11, 2026, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and June 17, 2026, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. A motion to approve the additional meetings was made and seconded. A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

VII. Closing Comments

In closing remarks, leadership thanked Committee members for their engagement and encouraged them to continue offering input on future agenda topics. Members were invited to suggest areas for deeper discussion across Strategy, Marketing, Communications, and Government Relations.

Mr. Arnold expressed appreciation to trustees, staff, and leadership for their participation and stated that the Strategy Committee is expected to play a critical role in supporting MetroHealth's long-term mission and strategic objectives.

There being no further business to bring before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:28 pm.



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Respectfully submitted,

Artis Arnold, Chairperson

