The meeting was called to order by Chair DePalma at 4:10 p.m. at the Campus Center Atrium as well as by electronic means through a dedicated WebEx meeting line which was publicly advertised. In attendance were: Chair DePalma, Chair-Elect Cohen, Vice-Chairs Montalto, Raia and Taylor, and Board Members Baynes, Cistaro, Clayton, Dahms, DeNichilo, Hu (by WebEx), Maser, Stamatis (by WebEx) and Toft.

Senior Administration Present: In attendance were President Bloom, Provost and Sr. Executive Vice President Deek, Sr. Vice President and Treasurer Bishof, Sr. Vice President Christ, Vice Presidents Alexo, McLeod and Nynens, Dean Boger, and Vice President and Secretary Stern.

1. In accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chair DePalma read the following statement:

   “Notice of this Meeting was provided to the public as required by the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, in the Schedule of Meeting Dates of the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey Institute of Technology which was mailed and sent electronically to the Star Ledger, the Herald News and the Vector on July 15, 2020, and posted on the University website on July 15, 2020 for filing with that office and posting in such public place as designated by said Clerk.”

2. Public Comments:

   Secretary Stern noted that there were no members of the public registered to speak.

3. By a motion duly made by Ms. Montalto, seconded by Mr. DeNichilo and unanimously approved, the Board approved the public minutes of the meeting of June 25, 2020, with abstentions from those members not in attendance at such meeting.

4. By a motion duly made by Mr. Cistaro, seconded by Mr. Dahms and unanimously approved, the Board voted to affirm the election of officers for FY 2021 as follows:

   Chair: Robert Cohen
   Vice Chairs: Norma Clayton
   Diane Montalto
   Lawrence Raia
   Nicholas DeNichilo
   Joseph Taylor
   Treasurer: Edward Bishof, Sr.
   Secretary: Holly C. Stern, Esq.
5. Mr. DePalma congratulated Chair Cohen and the Vice Chairs. Mr. Cohen thanked Mr. DePalma, and everyone for their confidence in him. It is a privilege and an honor to serve his alma mater, and continue to be part of the university; he expressed gratitude towards his fellow Board members, who are an amazing group dedicated to the success of NJIT. Mr. Cohen thanked Mr. Raia for getting him involved with the NCE Board of Visitors. He wrote a memo to all alumni and all those involved with NJIT. We have a lot on our plate, and much to do to continue doing great things that benefit the university. Mr. Cohen especially thanked Mr. DePalma, who both mentored him and challenged him in preparing for the position, and Mr. Cohen stated that he is better for it. He had the opportunity to see firsthand the amount of time Mr. DePalma dedicated to the issues at hand. He expressed his sincere gratitude and thanks to Mr. DePalma, who has a true lasting impact on the university, through many initiatives led which have his imprint, including the development of the Presidential Search guidelines, and the Board of Trustees Handbook.

6. Dr. Alexo led a ceremonial passing of the gavel marking the transition to a new Board Chair, and gave remarks. Mr. DePalma was the Chair during an exceptionally dynamic time for the university; others will give remarks on his achievements. Mr. DePalma is a proud and loyal alumnus, with a half century of service to NJIT. He has been a tireless advocate and has mentored, recruited and hired many NJIT students and alumni. He freely and generously invested his time, talents and treasure to the university. It is NJIT’s great and good fortune to count him as an alumnus.

7. Mr. Cistaro spoke next, stating that while he did not cross paths with Mr. DePalma during their years as students, it is known that Mr. DePalma’s involvement with NJIT started as a student, and the head of his fraternity. Mr. DePalma is known as “Mr. NJIT”; it is part of his DNA. His willingness to give back to the university follows a stunning and rewarding career in one of the country’s top engineering and design firms. He has led the university through a period of growth, including the Wellness and Events Center, the Honors College, Makerspace, the Lubetkin Field, the Greek Village, the Life Sciences Building, the parking facilities and many other milestones. Steve is a leader with honesty, integrity, strategic thinking and commitment; his passion comes out naturally. He puts his heart and soul in everything he does. He has a quality of drawing people to himself. Mr. DePalma will be missed, particularly his leadership and compassion. When NJIT calls, we know he will be there.

8. Dr. Bloom remarked that he echoes much that has been said about Mr. DePalma, expressing his sincere and deep gratitude. Dr. Bloom called attention to Mr. DePalma’s service to the Board, and previously the Board of Overseers; this has been the driving force to where NJIT is today, and it is due to Mr. DePalma’s passion, commitment and drive. Dr. Bloom spoke of the time when Mr. DePalma introduced him to the importance of Greek life, even visiting the University of Houston together to gain insight into building a Greek Village. Mr. DePalma was key to resolving the divide between the university and the former Alumni Association. His focus on the importance of capital renewal and replacement resulted in the stunning campus we have today. Another example of Mr. DePalma’s accomplishments include the development of the Presidential Search Guidelines (to be adopted today.) Mr. DePalma was committed to ensuring that the experience of the last presidential search, which divided and inflicted pain upon the campus community, doesn’t ever happen again. Mr. DePalma’s passion and drive for the
university is evident, and he is invested in NJIT’s success. Dr. Bloom thanked Mr. DePalma for both his service as the Board Chair, and as a friend. He helped set our university on a course of growth and continuous improvement.

9. Dr. Bloom presented gifts to Mr. DePalma on behalf of the university to commemorate his years of service.

10. Mr. DePalma gave remarks to the Board, stating that he was humbled, and thanking everyone for their confidence in him as Chair and Chair-Elect for the last eight years. It has been a remarkable experience to work with such a hands-on Board. Each and everyone here is on the Board for the right reasons, and it has been an honor to be here with you. He has thought long and hard about this decision. While he has the energy and commitment to continue, his thoughts are on the future, and the needs of the university. It has been a job to work with the staff of Dr. Bloom’s office. At this point, there was an official “passing of the gavel.”

11. Mr. DePalma quoted from the Board bylaws as to the duties of the Chair. This is an awesome responsibility, and he is very proud to hand over the gavel to Mr. Cohen. Over the past three years that he has known Mr. Cohen, he observed that Mr. Cohen didn’t miss a beat, advanced the initiatives of the Board, is knowledgeable about NJIT matters, and he has confidence Mr. Cohen will be an outstanding Chair. He offered his congratulations to Mr. Cohen and the Board.

12. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. COHEN, SECONDED BY MR. DAHMS AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE STEPHEN DePALMA’S SERVICE ON BOARD AND AWARDING EMERITUS STATUS.

13. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. TAYLOR, SECONDED BY MS. CLAYTON AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO ADOPT FY 21 SIX-MONTH OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGET.

14. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. TAYLOR, SECONDED BY MR. DeNICHILO AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO ADOPT FY 21 TUITION & FEES.

15. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. TAYLOR AND SECONDED BY MR. MASER AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PRIMARY BANKING SERVICES RELATIONSHIP.

16. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MR. CISTARO, SECONDED BY MR. DAHMS AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION FOR PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FACULTY HANDBOOK TO ADOPT PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH GUIDELINES.

17. BY A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CLAYTON, SECONDED BY MR. BAYNES AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the BOARD voted to adopt the RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BETA SOFTWARE LICENSE AGREEMENT.
18. By a motion duly made by Mr. Toft, seconded by Mr. Dahms and unanimously approved, the Board voted to adopt the resolution to authorize a grant between NJIT and the State of New Jersey by an for the Department of Environmental Protection Grant identifier AQ20-122.

19. Mr. Cohen noted that the reports are in the Board book, inviting questions from the Board. For the Board meeting of September 22, 2020, we will attempt to schedule the meeting in the same place (at the Campus Atrium) in the same socially distanced format.

20. The Board reviewed a video presentation depicting the “M2CU” global medical point of care service. This is a cooperative effort by and between three entities, including NJIT, University Hospital in Newark, and the Martin Tuchman Foundation to develop mobile medical care units that can fill critical infrastructure needs, to be deployed to areas of surging disease outbreaks and other disasters, as well as to regions lacking health care facilities. The units are constructed from repurposed shipping containers, and have customizable internal environments that can be configured for various medical applications including clinical point-of-care services and the testing and treatment of communicable and non-communicable diseases.

21. Vice President Nynens gave a status report an update on NJII. He led a significant restructuring and reorganization of NJII, moving away from the iLab concept which was top-heavy, and focusing on six business development divisions: Biopharma (H. Hartorian), Defense (W. Marshall), Entrepreneurship (W. Lutz), Healthcare (J. D’Angelo), Human Capital (D. Chrisofalo) and Data & Technology (D. Kaminski). As well, there are six new business support departments: Finance (K. Scull), Human Resources (K. Skyers), IT (J. Vilbrun), Marketing (A. Lamperti), Operations (J. Cauvin) and Legal (S. Flynn-Hollander). Mr. Nynens reviewed the main goals and achievements by division, and highlighted the progress made to date. The restructuring resulted in a net savings of $2.5 million per year. An in-depth cost review and immediate adjustments resulted in a cost savings of $0.8 million a year, looking for efficiencies with software, consultants, and outside legal counsel. They have transitioned to a stand-alone financial reporting system, to better align with a business development enterprise, and restructured the organization to achieve an agile, clear and accountable structure. Backlogs and process improvements in IT, legal, grants and accounting are being addressed, as well as addressing aged receivables. The for-profit entity (“HCIS”) is being reviewed to account for and report “for profit” activity. There is a new update website and marketing is operational. VentureLink is mentoring 67 students; there is a new cohort of 12 student entrepreneurs, 5 startups, and more than 25 local community-based entrepreneurs have been engaged, along with more than 350 attendees at Coffee club events. NJIT certificate-based training financial results from prior yearly losses to $100,000 in income this year, with anticipated revenue of over $500,000 in income next year, while investing heavily in growth. The HackerU partnership was very successful. Chair Cohen congratulated Mr. Nynens on the new structure and strategic alliances, leading to monetary opportunity and research prominence.

22. Chair Cohen announced that the next regularly scheduled Closed Session, which will be an Executive Session meeting, will be convened on September 24, 2020 at 2:00 p.m., to discuss personnel, real estate, legal and contractual matters. The following resolution was read and approved by all Trustees present:
WHEREAS, there are matters that require consideration by the Board of Trustees that qualify under the Open Public Meetings Act for discussion at a Closed Session;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees shall have a Closed Session to discuss matters involving personnel, real estate, legal and contractual matters on Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled Public Session of the Board will take place on Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

10. The Public Session was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.