



Western Washington University Associated Students
Legislative Affairs Council

Thursday, November 3, 2016

6:00 PM

VU567

Members: *Present: Bryce Hammer (ASVP for Governmental Affairs), Nora Selander (AS Legislative Liaison), Rosa Rice-Pelepko (AS REP Organizing and Outreach Coordinator), Galen Herz (AS Local Issues Coordinator), Sophia Perry (Student at Large), Sarah Gallagher (Student at Large), and Katherine VenDeWalker (Student at Large).*

Absent: Leanna Sauerlender (Student at Large) and Lisa Rosenburg.

Advisor:

Secretary: Cora Cole

Guests:

Motions:

LAC-16-4 Approval of minutes from October 27th. *Passed*

LAC-16-5 Motion to Adjourn. *Passed.*

Bryce Hammer called the meeting to order at 6:07PM on November 3rd.

I. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

For the benefit of new members, the committee did introductions including, names, pronouns, and best Halloween costume you've ever seen.

II. Minutes Approval

MOTION: LAC-16-4 by Selander

Approval of the minutes from October 27th.

Second: Gallagher Vote: 6-0-0 Action: Passes

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A.** LAC Funding and Budget Processes: Bryce began by explaining that the LAC gets its money from the LAF which is created through a \$1 per student per year. It is not a S and A fee so it is not controlled by the Board or the Business Director. Currently it goes to a couple categories; the personnel fees, like the new Board Assistant for Lobby Days, traveling, and dues for things like USSA and WS A. Once a month we travel to the WSA to talk about the student lobbying items, about \$2,000 is allocated for those meetings. The USSA is budgeted for about \$7,500 per year, that is going to be up for discussion in the upcoming meetings. The reserves percentage is how much money can go into reserves before it is put someplace else. The discretionary funding is earmarked

for use but the committee has to vote on it before it gets used. USSA didn't renew the West Coast Organizer position so we are significantly less represented right now in the WSA, in addition to that, last year the USSA congress was online which was less representative of our interests. The WSA Expenses were moved to non-discretionary because it is approximately the same amount every 4 weeks. Bryce will be giving reports on how much is used every other meeting. The additional lobbying and student use areas are for lobbying locally and for any particular additional opportunities students want to take advantage of.

Bryce said that since there is a lot of extra funds, at least \$7,000, we could invest in an extra night for the ESC and Environmental Lobby days so that they can do Lobbying 101. Nora added that we should be getting reservations for those lobbying days because WSA schools are doing lobbying during the same weekend.

B. Bryce added to the agenda an information item about the vice-chair.

C. Discussion of Proposals: Bryce introduced Western Lobby Day, January 15th. The Proposals need to be sent off by the 2nd, or as soon as we get back from break. We need to have the finalized proposals by 10th of November, so that the Board can deliberate for two weeks. We have to pass it as an action item to finalize it, so the agenda is an info item today and an action item next week. Bryce invited the Council members to come to the Board meetings where they see the agenda so that we can answer the Board's questions about the agenda. Nora needs to meet with everyone one-on-one to get the details hammered out on proposals in the next week. Rosa suggested that Nora reach out to the student trustee about the agenda as well.

Nora took the reins, beginning by explaining the organization technique from last meeting, described in detail in the minutes from the last meeting. She had everyone select items that they would like to focus on. Sophia asked to work on Support for Survivors, Galen focused on Tuition and Revenue, and Sara is focusing on Tuition with regards to k-12 and Civics education. Nora said that Tuition and Revenue is very finalized in terms of information and charts, Student Success is still relying on last year's data, she will update that information in the next week, Civics information will need be updated as well, so any feedback is helpful.

The committee then broke up for approximately 45 minutes to read the items and then reconvened at 7:30 PM

Rosa asked about the timeline for Voter Registration, currently we are lobbying for 11 days before the election, she asked to call for same day registration so that we could have more room for negotiation. Plenty of states do a similar thing, so we altered the item to call for that with a possibility to negotiate for a smaller number of days instead. Nora explained that the federal government is pushing so that un-documented citizens can't get motor voter

registration, which simplifies that process for documented would-be-voters, but disenfranchises undocumented people who want to have their voices heard. Nora added that she had talked to Wayne about extending emergency housing to one month minimum and removing any housing costs and adding counseling services, which are definitely going to be local lobbying issues.

IV. INFORMATION ITEM

- a. We need to nominate a vice-chair this week and then vote on those nominees next week. Selander moves to nominate Gallenger, Rice-Pelepko seconds. Rice-Pelepko moves to nominate Perry. Selander seconds.

V. REPORTS

- A. Galen** reported that he had met with Rick Sephler, who recommended going to city council and mayor on lobbying issues. He also recommended student survey to clarify their priorities. The committee then discussed how previous surveys had been made effective or not effective. Galen has also met with building code managers and their management of gender neutral bathrooms. Specifically, the latest code resolution was to have all single use restrooms be gender neutral and they have no altered position on multi-stall. You can also go around codes by writing out reasoning about why the restroom needs to be gender neutral which is what Western may be going through.
- B. Nora** reported that she had been mostly working on the proposals and tax code research, meaning that all the information on the documents is up to date. She also went to the WASC conference yesterday, there were student and faculty from all over the state who she got to talk with. Senator Andy Hill, author of budget for tuition reduction died recently so she is writing a WSA resolution about that. She is also trying to find housing in Olympia for the winter which is interesting. Additionally, she is making a WSA fact sheet for liaisons.
- C. Bryce** Reported that she and Stephanie Chang went to the WASAC conference on Tuesday. The Structural Review Committee has been talking about the Council being in the Student Senate. She prefers that it becomes a joint committee between the Senate and the Board rather than transfer to the Senate entirely. She will keep the Council up to date on that as it develops. The AS Board passed a resolution regarding Standing Rock, putting the school to stand in solidarity with the tribes there. Bill Tyne, president of United Faculty of Washington State, will be here Thursday of next week, so Bryce has been working on that. She has also learned some interesting things about Administrators during this process. Including the fact that the Admin have \$47,000 in reserves and are only spending \$4,000 on the ESC building, so there may be some student organization take place surrounding that issue. On the 19th there will be the WSA general assembly, so as soon as our agenda is done she will be working on that.

MOTION: LAC-16-5 By Herz

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Second: Selander Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passes

Bryce Hammer adjourned the meeting at 7:47.