



Western Washington University Associated Students
Legislative Affairs Council

Monday January 30th, 2017 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), Leanna Sauerlender (Student at Large), Sarah Gallagher (Student at Large), Ana Ramirez (Student at Large), and Peter Condyles (Student at Large).
Absent: Sofia Perry (Student at Large), Koyle Kendrick (Student at Large), and Lisa Rosenberg.*

Advisor:

Secretary: Cora Cole

Guests: Anna Kemper

Motions:

LAC-17-W-2 Approval of the minutes from December 1, January 9, and 23. *Passed*

LAC-17-W-3 Funding State Need Grant Lobby Day, not to surpass \$700. *Passed.*

LAC-17-W-4 Funding Bryce Hammer's trip to the Olympia WWU Alumni Reception. *Passed.*

LAC-17-W-5 Fund Local Lobby Day, not to accede \$2,200. *Passed.*

Bryce Hammer called the meeting to order at 5:08 Pm.

I. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Bryce added two action items in funding requests for the State Need Grant Lobby Day and an Alumni event.

II. Minutes Approval

MOTION: LAC-17-W-2 by Sauerlender

Approval of the minutes from December 1 and January 9th and 23rd.

Second: Herz Vote: 7-0-0 Action: Passed

III. ACTION ITEMS

- a. **State Need Grant:** Western is partnering with the WSA to create a joint lobby day for the State Need Grant, which was reduced during the recession but we now are demanding full funding. The cost estimate for the trip is around \$640 vans cost \$320 each and there are additionally some students from other locations who are driving. The folks who are driving their own cars are paid 44

cents a mile for wear and tear and the rental of the cars from the school will be either \$150 or \$300. Food will be \$110 just in case there are not provided meals. *Nora Selander called in at 5:14pm.*

Sarah asked if the 44 cents counted for gas or whether they made gas separately, Bryce said she would check the AS policy. Rosa said that she would close requests to be involved by tomorrow. Bryce found out that the people who are driving themselves the 44 cents cover gas. The not to accede number is \$700.

- b. **Alumni Meeting in Olympia:** Bryce presented a personal lobbying request of \$150 out of the LAF. She presumes that the actual cost will be less and the extra money will not leave the fund. She is traveling to Olympia to attend a dinner party at home of a former secretary of state with Nora. The former secretary is a republican which is good for lobbying and the admin have been working with him so it is a good location for making connections. She hammered home the importance of connecting with republicans when we so frequently line up with democrats. There will be no cost for food but since she is using an AS vehicle there will be a rental fee. She would then go to the state need grant lobby day and help out there the following day. There is no formal regulation on this committee about votes that contain a conflict of interest but Bryce chose to abstain anyway.
- c. **Local Lobby Day Funding:** The lobby day funding is on par with past funding requests, with the addition of a speaker Zachary De Wolf, a housing activist from Seattle. Bryce added money for publicity and transportation with some discussion. The funds are not to accede \$2,200.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **Creating the Funding Request form for LAF:** Bryce asked what questions the committee would want to ask someone who was looking for funds for a project. Galen suggested we model the Activities Council Funding Form. It should include the presenting organization, and contact information. There are budget authorities for the Business council to process these requests but Bryce thinks that her and I can do that part because we will have less requests. How will members bring this back to the Western Community? Reason for funding requires a budget sheet and Rosa suggested not using excel for that, Bryce proposed using word instead. We also need to know if they are getting funding from other sources within or without of the AS. Also if they are co-sponsoring or working with another group. Bryce will need to talk to Lisa about whether there will be any Loans or Grants or just Underwrites. How will it promote legislative action or involvement, could it be partisan and how, and how this will benefit marginalized groups? Bryce will hammer out the fine details on legality with Lisa over the next couple days. Rosa asked about how we will be seen as partisan, Bryce said that the VP for Gov and the Legislative Liaison would work together to decide what might cross our technically non-partisan boundaries. We should also include the specific amount they request from LAF. Galen asked if there was a way that this could extend to yearlong programs that aren't really events, Bryce responded that we can change event

to be “event or program”. We can divvy up the form into the different kinds of requests, events, programs, or travel opportunities,

- b. **Environmental Lobby Day Agenda:** All legislative agendas the AS passes have to go through LAC, except the ESC Lobby Day agenda because that goes through president’s council. This one was proposed by Anna Kemper and the items are Water for People, Farms, and Fish, Reducing Toxic Pollution in All Communities, Carbon Taxation, Oil Transportation Safety, and Protecting Oyster Dome.

The committee took 5 minutes to read through the proposals.

Galen suggested adding mention of Tribal water rights in the Water section because of the urgency of those rights now. The committee discussed the wording of the proposal clarifying intent. Anna asked how formatting the proposal before and after the Board sees it works and Bryce explained that she can cut stuff to make it shorter after the Board sees it but you can’t add anything Galen asked for clarification on the proposed role of the Legislators in relation to the *Whatcom County v. Hirst* ruling. Anna explained that there are bills that challenge that but they haven’t been finalized yes and so she will put together a sheet with the specific bills that are relevant the week before lobby day. Bryce discussed the need to get this agenda passed today so that the Board can see it on Friday as an information item. She then shared the google doc with the edits with all of the members so that they could edit it until Wednesday. The committee edited grammar and language to make the agenda more concise and clear for the Board and Legislators.

There were several places along the Agenda where treaty and fishing tribal rights were added as reasons for legislation to be passed.

V. ACTION ITEM

MOTION: LAC-17-W-3 by Rice-Pelepko

Fund the State Need Grant Lobby Day today, not to surpass \$700.

Second: Gallagher Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passes

MOTION: LAC-17-W-4 by Sauerlender

Fund Bryce Hammers trip to the Olympia WWU Alumni Reception.

Second: Vote: 7-0-1 Action: Passes

MOTION: LAC-17-W-5 by Sauerlender

Fund Local Lobby Day including speaker Zachary DeWolf, not to accede \$2,200

Second: Gallagher Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passes

VI. REPORTS

- A. **Bryce** Reported that she will be going down on Monday to Olympia for lobbying and the committee meeting will be chaired by Sofia. WSA meeting this last weekend talked about protecting undocumented students and lobby days. She and Aleyda Cervantes may be writing a referendum for WSA to pass a state wide sanctuary campus policy.
- B. **Rosa** reported that she is organizing the SNG day of action with a phone bank for calling reps on Wednesday and people should come.

Bryce Hammer adjourned the meeting at 6:52 PM.