

**Western Washington University Associated Students
Activities Council**

Meeting Minutes for Monday, October 26th, 2015

Non-Voting Members: Casey Hayden (Student Activities Advisor)

Voting Members: Israel Rios (AS VP for Clubs), George Vadino (Club Representative), Anujin Ganbat (Club Representative), Walter Lutsch (AS Club Coordinator), Ryan Roberts (AS Club Business Director), Nicole Carroll (Student at Large)

Absent: None

Guests: Alex LaVallee (AS Representative), Rose Rice-Pelepko (of Students for Sustainable Food), Hannah Flotlin (of Animal Rights Club), Amber Ma (of DIY & Craft Club), Stephanie DeSalomé (of DIY & Craft Club), Gypsy Steffens (of DIY & Craft Club), Kai Griffin (of WWU Longboarding Club), John Slugg (of WWU Longboarding Club), Michael Rivera (of WWU Longboarding Club)

Secretary: Jessi Navarre (Board Assistant for Club Committees)

Motions

AC-15-F-24- Recognition of DIY & Craft Club as an official AS Club under the category of Art/Music/and Dance. - **PASSED**

AC-15-F-25- Approval of \$869 in the form of an underwrite to Students of Sustainable Food for their showing of Cowspiracy from Grants/Loans/and Underwrites. - **PASSED**

Israel Rios, A.S. Vice President for Activities, called the meeting to order at 6:09p.m. October 26, 2015.

I. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Rios suggested putting LaVallee first on the agenda because of a conflict he had expressed to Rios prior to the meeting's commencement.

II. Business Director's Report

Roberts said that of the Activity Council's Grants/Loans/Underwrites they had 85.94% of the budget remaining at \$28,360. He said that of Club Conference Funding they had 84.64% of the budget remaining at \$11,850. He said that of Bookstore Donations remained at 93.35%.

III. CLUB RECOGNITION

a. DIY & Craft Club

Amber Ma said that their club was planning putting together decorating get-togethers for dorms as well as using more environmentally friendly materials for their projects. Stephanie DeSalomé gave the example of how a shoe box can be turned into an organizer. Carroll asked if they were going to focus on dorm decorating throughout the year. Ma said that the club wanted to take part in a range of general arts and crafts. Roberts asked if they knew about Ragfinery. Ma replied that she has not. Roberts suggested partnering with them and The Foundary as places that supported crafting like laser cutting and 3D printing. Ganbat asked for clarification as to why the club was classified under Arts/Music/and Dance. Ma said that since crafting is a part of art that the club fit under said category the best. Lutsch asked how the club planned on getting funding. Ma said that they planned on asking for materials on specific projects from the specific members attending. Roberts clarified that Activities Council was a source of funding available to all clubs. Lutsch asked if they knew what fee they would charge to members. Ma said they planned on charging somewhere between ten and fifteen dollars as a membership fee. Lutsch said that it was difficult to get students to pay fees and suggested looking at what projects they had planned before deciding on a fee. Ganbat suggesting giving a budget break down to Activities Council so that the council could help with funding instead on imposing a fee. Vadino asked how many students were interested in the club. Ma said that they had six members and five others interested. Hayden asked where they had planned to meet. Ma said they wanted to meet somewhere in the Communications Facilities. Hayden reminded them they would need large tables for their meeting and to check the room the reserve to make sure it met their needs. He also suggested collaborating with Pottery Club. Roberts said that anyone has access to the Craft Cave within the AS. Hayden said that the Craft Cave contained items they could use like paint and paper.

Motion AC-15-F-24 by Carroll

Moves to recognize DIY & Craft Club as an official AS Club under the category of Art/Music/and Dance.

Seconded: Lutsch Vote: 6-0-0 **PASSED**

Lutsch said that the club should visit the Club Hub for more information.

Roberts said that he could help the club with budgeting if they needed.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

a. Students for Sustainable Food (\$869)

Rosa Rice-Pelepko said that the club was putting on a showing of the film *Cowspiracy* and their budget was \$869. She said she contacted the Western Library and they were getting her a copy to be shown at the event. She mentioned that the request could be approved as an underwrite in case pricing of licensing fees or food changed. Lutsch asked if library copy of the documentary included licensing rights. Rice-Pelepko said that she was unsure. Hayden said there are different versions and pricing for copies that are public versus private. Rice-Pelepko said she specified that the copy needed to be private when she spoke with the library. Lutsch asked if the club had found out any more information on the food they had planned to serve. Rice-Pelepko said that the CoOp could not provide their event with more assistance beyond a \$25 gift card. Lutsch asked if they still planned on serving full meals. Rice said yes and that they were going to serve through CoOp catering. Carroll suggested the Council write an underwrite for the film fees and a grant for the rest of the budget. Rios said the Council should do the entire request as an underwrite. Roberts asked when the event was going to take place. Rice-Pelepko said November 18th. Lutsch said given the level of detail put into the budget the council should decide stipulations on what can be done with any extra funds. Roberts asked for clarification as to whether unused funds from grants become money for the club to use. Lutsch said yes. Roberts asked about the club's other plans like whether or not they had planned to visit the farmer's market. Rice-Pelepko said their clubs wanted to take part in the Real Food Challenge as well as be able to print fliers throughout the year. Roberts said that the Real Food Challenge should be a separate request made to the council, but suggested that any leftover funds could be used for the general needs of their club. Rice-Pelepko said that since their event is a partnership with the Students for Sustainable Water that she would want to divide any leftover funds between the clubs. Hayden said that in other cases the council had specified what happened when revenue was being generated.

Motion AC-15-F-25 by Roberts

Moves to approve \$869 in the form of an underwrite to Students of Sustainable Food for their showing of *Cowspiracy* from Grants/Loans/and Underwrites.

Seconded: Carroll Vote: 6-0-0 **PASSED**

V. INFO ITEMS

a. WWU Longboarding (\$1600)

Michael Rivera said that the past years their club went to San Francisco and documented their travels while doing Migrate to Skate. He said that

their goal was to spread awareness about longboarding. He said that they were looking to get a grant or an underwrite for their transportation. He said that the previous year they had two vans and fifteen skaters. He said that their documentary became popular and was featured on different websites. He said that this year the club was planning on going to Maui with seven to nine skaters. He said that they planned on filming while there to produce another promotional video. He explained that they would have a local tour them while in Maui and that the club planned on participating in the Maui Challenge. He added that the goals of the trip were to create a community between them and the skating community of Maui, spread awareness about longboarding and safety, and produce another video. He said that they were requesting \$1600 for transportation and the members had already paid for their tickets. He explained that the club required another van to carry gear and equipment and gas for the trip. He said that they estimated gas to be \$500 for gas as well as a ferry trip to the next island over. Rios provided some background to the council and explained that the request would come out of Grants/Loans/and Underwrites and not Conference Funding. Carroll clarified that since the members had already purchased their tickets that the council would be unable to help fund that aspect of the trip. Rios agreed and said that the request was only for the vehicle rental and such. Lutsch said that they were funding vehicles and gas. Rivera said that they had updated the total to \$1600 because of the estimated tax. Rios asked how many people were going on the trip. Rivera said that they had seven confirmed and two more who had yet to commit to purchasing a ticket. Lutsch asked how they were planning on handling lodging. Rivera said that they had contact in Hawaii that had agreed to house them and that they planned to camp the rest of the time. Ganbat asked how much tickets had cost them. Rivera said tickets had been \$356 each. Hayden asked how the club was doing overall. Kai Griffin said that they had set up a table and got sixty interested people. He also mentioned that they had held a meeting specifically teaching people about safely stopping a longboard. He said that after Western's Info Fair their club had gained twenty new members. John Slugg said they had been skating around the local Hagen store and made a point to get to know the area and community. He also said that Sponsors in the area had providing their club with helmets and gloves at a discounted price. Rivera said that they recently helped out with Slide Jam. Roberts noticed that there was a skater in their video who had been wearing a facemask and described his own hiking injury. He asked if the club had thought of supplying full face masks to their members. Griffin said full face masks were for more serious riders and were just then becoming more available. Griffin agreed that it would be nice to provide that type of protection to their members, but at \$259 a helmet they were not accessible to everyone. He explained that a "half shell" usually ran between \$25 and \$30.

Rivera added that his own helmet was \$27.50. Roberts said that he had seen full face mask helmets for \$65. Hayden asked about the club's safety plan while they were traveling. Rivera said that in past years the club had required riders to bring helmets and gloves and suggested that members wear jeans while riding. He mentioned shutting down sections of roads. Lutsch asked if they planned on working with the local authority. Rivera said no and that they would only informally shut down a small section of road for a short time. Roberts asked if anyone had first responder certification. Slugg said he did. Roberts suggested getting \$25 certifications for injuries with longboarding. Lutsch expressed that he was worried about the safety of the members of the club partaking in debatably dangers stunts while so far away from Western. He asked how much discussion the council should have had about safety. Hayden said Risk Management was involved with the safety aspect of the trip. Rios said it was a trip the club had done before and that they had medical supplies. He went on to ask about the race they planned on partaking in. Rivera said that it was called the Maui Challenge. Slugg described the race as a controllable situation with a requirement for experience. Ganbat asked how many people went last year and how much the club had received previously. Rivera said that last year there were fifteen participants and they requested \$1200-\$1300 for just van rental from the Council.

This Information Item udii be voted upon next meeting as an Action Item.

VI. LARGE EVENT OPPORTUNITY FUND

a. As Productions Special Event (\$4000)

LaVallee said that AS Productions had brought lecturers, movies, speakers, and more to the campus. He said that his position focused on comedians and speakers. He said that his request would be for funds to help bring comedian Tig Notaro to Western. He said that Tig Notaro did a comedy set a year after her mother past away and then Notaro contracted CDI F and Breast Cancer. He relayed that she overcame her struggles through comedy. He said that his contract with Notaro was \$17,500 and the total cost of the event was \$20,000. He said that the \$4000 would have lowered ticket prices. He said the PAC Main Stage was the venue for the event. He expressed that without the \$4000 that even with a sold out show the event would come out \$2000 over budget. He said that there were two ticket prices, one being a reduced price for students. He said the prices before this request were \$25 for general and \$18 for students. He said that with the \$4000 they could have brought the ticket prices for students from \$18 down to \$15. He also said that if the show was sold out that their budget would have a positive gain and he could use that money to bring more events to

Western. Ríos asked if the reduction was for \$3. LaVallee said yes. Ríos asked if the event would sell out with \$18 tickets. LaVallee said that selling out at full ticket price was unlikely. He mentioned that Craig Ferguson came to Bellingham for \$40 each and that Western's own Dead Parrots Society had low turnout with \$4 a ticket. He said that \$15 dollars was more accessible. He said that comedy is a heavily male dominated profession and bringing Tig Notaro to Western would have broken stereotypes that women were not funny. He said that with \$15 ticket more people would have been able to attend and experience Notaro as a female comedian. Hayden asked how many people in the room had heard of Tig Notaro. Roberts asked what kind of comedy Tig Notaro performed. LaVallee described her as laid back and a good fit for Western. Ganbat asked if LaVallee was the Event Coordinator and asked how many students usually come to shows. LaVallee had not had an event that has had tickets. He said that he coordinated VU Late Night which had a turnout of over a thousand, but the event was open. He said that his next event was the weekend after the meeting and was entitled Harvest Jubilee. He said that other events with comedians had sold out on campus, so it was possible to have a sold out show. Ganbat asked if their target was to sell out. LaVallee said yes. He said that they were putting a lot of money into publicity and that normally events get one banner but this event was getting three. He mentioned putting up posters downtown in the new alumni office. He said that advertising would begin during dead week. He said Notaro was scheduled to perform after winter break. He said that Notaro was not very well known but was a rising star recently featured on Conan O'Brien and Seth Meyers and had documentaries released on Netflix and HBO. He said that she was booking for \$35 to \$40 thousand in college setting, but they contracted her before her popularity began to increase so they are spending \$17,500.

This Information Item udii be voted upon next meeting as an Action Item.

VII. Other Business

Ríos aid that he approved three more people to join Activities Council for the next meeting. He said that since there were more people that the council would now have had to share tablets. Hayden said that he had seen four people on the agenda. Ríos said that he had approved one more than necessary and had corrected the mistake. Lutsch suggested educating visitors on taking minutes. Roberts suggested welcoming the clubs to the council and giving them a quick rundown of procedures. He also suggested instilling a time for explanations. Ganbat agreed that our time is valuable. Ríos said that he did not think there needed to be a strict time limit, but he agreed that the council should remind visitors to keep explanations concise. Hayden said that it was not typical to have a time limit. Roberts said that he would have been willing to motion for time

limit. Hayden said that a time limit would have been helpful for Cub Recognition Requests. He said that Funding Requests often have many questions and would have been hard to time. Lutsch suggested having a general guideline instead of a strict limit. Rios asked the council to think about time limits for each different request. Ganbat said for each type of approval would have required a different time limit. Rios said that some requests were more complicated than others. Roberts said recommended breakdown similar to DECA so that guests could prepare for a time limit. Carroll said that Mariachi club stressed how important there request was over and over and that the council should be more technical. Lutsch said the council should introduce terminology briefly to guests as to come off more formal and not mean. Ganbat said that DIY & Craft Club did not have much explanation and providing visitors with an outline of questions to answer would have been helpful. Lutsch wanted more detail beforehand, especially regarding club fees.

Roberts said that Activities Council needed more funding. He expressed that the AS had \$800,000 in reserves and that in the past year the only major funding retrieved from that fund was for the KUGS radio tower. He said that students were not getting the benefit of that money. He said that he did not want Activities Council to be guarded with their funds. He said that there were ways to get more funds but that they were not accessible. Rios said that the Budget Committee had already given Activities Council funds for the year and that it would have been unlikely for them to give the council more. He said that Activities Council was underfunded and that the previous VP of Activities tried to get more funding and was rejected. He said that the Board of Directors was looking at places for the reserve funds to go, but that was unlikely that any funds would go to Activities Council. Hayden said a proposal to the board needed to demonstrate need. He said that the council made it to the end of the year with funds left in the past by being thrifty. Rios said that he had approved some publicity request under \$30. Roberts said that the Council needed to ask for money before they had spent the funds, but that that did not demonstrate demand. He said that using the funds demonstrated demand, but that reaching the end of the year without funds was irresponsible. Ganbat said they could keep these ideas in mind and return to them when the council had used 50% of their funds. Vadino asked how much of the reserves the council was thinking of asking for. Roberts said that they would need to look at records. He said that clubs similar to Mariachi would come asking for large amounts of funds. Hayden said money from reserves would have only been a onetime fix and that the council needed to work on a new budget proposal for the next year. Lutsch said that his goal was to encourage clubs to do more and do bigger things. He said that providing more fund would have encouraged engagement with the campus. He said that the current boundary was \$2000. Rios said that the council would continue to talk about the subject at a later date.

Israel Rios adjourned the meeting at 7:35pm

