

**Western Washington University Associated Students
Legislative Affairs Council
Thursday, April 28, 2016 VU 567**

Present: Patrick Eckroth (ASVP for Governmental Affairs), Nora Selander (Vice Chair, Western Votes!), Josie Ellison (Legislative Liaison), McKenzie Dent (Local Liaison), Bridget Doyle Williams (Student at Large), Henry Pollet (Student at Large).

Absent: Briana Dearing (Student at Large), Sarah Berglin (Student at Large), Andrea Tomkins (Student at Large), Losa Berhane (Student at Large), and Emma Bigongiari (Student at Large).

Advisor: Lisa Rosenberg
Secretary: Bryce Hammer

MOTIONS

LAC-16-S-13 Approved the minutes from 4-13-2016. **Passed.**

Patrick Eckroth, Chair of Legislative Affairs Council, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

- A. Eckroth said he's adding a conversation about the WSA Agenda and the USSA National Student Power Summit feedback. He also found the discrepancy in the budget report from last week. Once they get the report from USSA they'll have a draft of the proposed budget and they'll edit it together. It'll set the framework for conferences and other budgets for next year.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. MOTION LAC-16-S-13 by Selander

Approved the minutes from 4-13-2016

Second: Pollet Vote: 6-0-0

Action: Passed.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. WSA Statewide Agenda

Eckroth said at the most recent WSA meeting they discussed three proposals that Western would likely take. Ellison will be working on Student Success, for the fourth year in a row. Western also got the VOTE proposal and Student Trustee. Ellison said that at GA a proposal for raising the minimum wage to \$13.50 and

enacting paid sick leave will likely come up. They think it's a good proposal and WSA was asked to endorse it. Eckroth said the proposals are supposed to be due in two days. Eckroth said they're attempting to have a student of color summit at the same time as GA is happening, which will remove all the people of color from the room, while the voting is happening, which is not good. Williams asked if the summit is one day. Eckroth said yes, it'll be challenging but it's never too bad. Ellison said it'll likely be longer than in past years. Eckroth said the council should give him information about people that would like to go so he can reach out to them. Ellison said we'll be leaving Western at 5am. Eckroth asked for opinions on the agenda, they should be in by the 7th of May. Selander asked if there is a place the council can find the last year's agenda. Ellison said not the whole agenda but some of them. Eckroth said he has the packet from November. Eckroth said he'll send it out. Rosenberg said that in order to turn the proposals in by the 7th they should have them done by next week. Ellison said if we have them for the next meeting then it should be done in time. Ellison said they'll probably redo the academic proposal. Selander volunteered for VOTE. Ellison said New and Dedicated Revenue will probably be a fight. Selander and Hammer will do Student Trustee. Ellison and Hammer will do New and Dedicated Revenue. Eckroth asked for questions, there were none.

B. USSA National Student Power Summit Feedback

Eckroth said he got the responses from the people that went to USSA NSPS. He said a third of the people did not attempt to do the reflections. We have a policy that says they're no longer eligible for funding. He wants to talk about ways to enforce the policy. Selander said she thinks it's important that people respond to these trips because there is a debate surrounding USSA. Ellison said they agree especially because we've been spending a lot more easily. Also, filling out the application help them think about how they plan on bringing it back to campus. Looking at the form though, would be good. Would be good to have a mandatory LAC meeting that they have to debrief at, instead of the form, allows for conversation. Williams said the only thing is getting all the people. Eckroth said hybrid of both would be good. Rosenberg said if they're not comfortable sharing they should have another option. Eckroth said two people submitted reflections but they weren't substantial. They read over the responses. Eckroth asked if they should consider the shorter responses. Williams said no. Pollet said, since they're all short, he'd rather not take their responses into consideration. Williams said it was a lot of money and there was so much to reflect on, it shouldn't've been difficult. Josie said some people would probably be willing to come it and talk about it. Eckroth said they'll have an open application process for USSA congress. He had the council look over the application thus far. It'll include the purpose of congress, how the council selects applicants, the deadlines. Rosenberg said giving students examples would be good. Ellison said they have their booklet from last year and they can bring it in and scan it as an example of what to expect. Williams asked what congress is. Ellison said it's usually 5 or 6 days. One day is set for creating proposals, one is debate on those proposals. Run entirely under Robert's

Rules. Each regional space and each caucus writes proposals and resolutions, which serves as guiding docs for campaigns and an internal guiding document that will help fix the institution. It usually ends up being a 13 or 14-hour meeting. We have 8 votes. Ellison said it's long but good. Rosenberg said it's good for people to know the set up. Ellison said the other days are normally devoted to educational. USSA Board is also elected there. Hammer asked what the process is. Ellison said each regional space and identity space nominates someone and then does an election. Usually chair and vice chair. Some times its co-chair or representative, decided by the caucus, those people make up the board. There are several staff and national staff get elected there. The only staff members that are elected, the president and vice president, are elected there. Eckroth had them run through the application form again. They discussed it as a council for a short time.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm by acclimation.