



**Western Washington University Associated Students
Activities Council**

Meeting Minutes for Monday, January 23rd, 2017

Present: Alex LaVallee (AS VP for Activities), Mikhail Jackson (AS Club Business Director), Walter Lutsch (Club Representative), Jessi Navarre (AS Club Representative), Erin Johnson (Club Representative), Merrill Hunt-Paez (Student at Large), Jack Fossedal

Absent: Corey Godfrey

Advisor(s): Casey Hayden

Secretary: Julia Rutledge (Board Assistant for Club Committees)

Guests: Sam Schultz (Student Economics Association), Stephanie Mason (WWU Whiteboard Coders), Josh Dombal (WWU Whiteboard Coders), Simon Maile (WWU Whiteboard Coders), Danny Fratella (WWU Hikes), Devon Kaufman (Aquaponics Club), Jackie Delong (WWU Swim), Caroline Baber (WWU Swim), Nick Pederson (WWU Swim), Austin Clark (WWU Swim), Lacey Knudtson (CWMEA), Marissa Brookhart (CWMEA), Robyn Young (Demography Club), Galen Herz (Local Issues Team), Alexander Gordon-Sandweiss (Hillel of WWU), Leah Sauder (Hillel of WWU)

LaVallee left at 6:30 and the chair was passed to Lutsch.

Motions

AC-17-W-9 - Motion to approve Aquaponics Club as an AS club under the category Environmental - **PASSED**

AC-17-W-10 - Motion to approve Local Issues Team as an official club under the category Political - **PASSED**

AC-17-W-11 - Motion to approve WWU Whiteboard Coders as an AS club in the department Academic/Departmental - **PASSED**

AC-17-W-12 - Motion to approve Hillel of WWU's statement of purpose change - **PASSED**

AC-17-W-13 - Motion to approve the amount of \$300 in the form of a bookstore donation for WWU Puzzle Hunt for their event - **PASSED**

AC-17-W-14 - Motion to suspend the rules of operation and move the Demography Club's request to an action item - **PASSED**

AC-17-W-15 - Motion to approve the amount of \$900 in the form of a grant to Demography Club from club conference funding for their trip - **PASSED**

AC-17-W-16 - Motion to give \$2700 to CWMEA in the form of a grant for their conference from the club conference fund - **PASSED**

AC-17-W-17 - Motion to approve \$220 for the Student Economics Association for their Western Cares event as a grant from Grants, Loans, and Underwrites - **PASSED**

AC-17-W-18 - Motion to approve the amount of \$295 in the form of a grant from Grants, Loans, and Underwrites for WWU Hikes - **PASSED**

Alex LaVallee, VP for Activities, called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm on January 23rd, 2017.

I. Revisions to the Agenda

Arabic Culture and Language Club had no representatives, so they were removed from the agenda.

II. Business Director's Report

Jackson said that the committee was doing well on everything except for Grants, Loans, and Underwrites, where they were a little low.

III. Club Recognition

a. Aquaponics Club

Rep: Devon Kaufman. The club is about the Aquaponics system in Huxley. Lots of students are interested in maintaining the system, and they thought it would be good to make a club. LaVallee asked if it would just be maintenance for the system in the Huxley building, or if they would be doing more projects? Kaufman said that all work done

with fish had to be approved by a research committee in the college. For right now, the club would just be focused on the system in Huxley. The club was already approved by the research committee. Lutsch said that he guessed that most of the interest was from people in the college, and asked if there was a plan on growing interest in the rest of campus. Kaufman said that more than environmental students were interested, such as politics and business majors.

AC-17-W-9 by Lutsch. Moved to approve Aquaponics Club as an AS club under the category Environmental

Second: Johnson

Vote: 7-0-0

PASSED

b. Local Issues Team

Representative: Galen Herz. Local Issues Team is a club to amplify student voices in local government, hoping to make Bellingham more affordable and equitable. Herz said that social change happens best when people work together. Johnson asked what kind of events or things were the club planning on doing to connect the group to Western as a whole. Herz said that they were working to collaborate on an event that takes student input on what can improve Bellingham. Herz said that he had been going to council meetings over the past fall, and it's dominated by older, wealthy, white homeowners. Navarre asked where they planned on meeting, and how much interest had been generated. Herz said that there were a lot of sign-ups on a Google doc, as well as during Western Lobby Day. They would be meeting on the VU 4th floor. Herz asked the people attending the committee what they would like to see Bellingham improve on. LaVallee said that he heard that landlords were not being held accountable for keeping their building up to code or returning their deposits. Herz said that that was a common problem, and that all the funding for affordable housing was being channeled into one area. There was starting to be a visible difference between rich schools and poor schools. A representative from CWMEA said that as future

educators, they were extremely concerned with that. LaVallee asked how the agenda was going to be taken from members of the club versus members of the Western student body. Herz said that it would come from club members primarily, but if students came to them they would try and lobby on their behalf.

AC-17-W-10 by Johnson. Moved to approve Local Issues Team as an official club under the category Political.

Second: Navarre Vote: 7-0-0

PASSED

c. WWU Whiteboard Coders

Representatives: Simon Maile, Josh Dombal, and Stephanie Mason.

Maile said that the main purpose of the club was to keep their members “fresh” and teach their members how to do interview problems for computer science jobs. The problems don’t come up frequently in coding, but they do in the interview process. Johnson asked how much interest had been generated, and if this was a club that was just focused on interviews. Maile said that the interest was mostly from computer science majors and minors. Mason said that they would also be practicing a lot of coding skills in the context of interview questions, to change people’s way of thinking and be able to do problems on the whiteboard. LaVallee asked if there was a reason that the scope was so focused on interview questions, rather than computer science in general. He wondered if there was a club that already existed for computer science. Dombal said that in the computer science department, there were already clubs that focused on other things, like hosting speakers. Dombal said that they wanted to focus on the interview and technical part of computer science. They acknowledged that the other clubs have a pretty good handle on those things. Maile said that their club would help students set aside an hour a week to practice interview questions. Hunt-Paez wondered if their club would be able to help people who were coming out of introductory computer science classes. Dombal said that the first two

classes taken for computer science are similar to interview-type questions. Maile added that when they got together, they tried to put up on the whiteboard everyone's perspective of the solution. They talk about why one answer is the best, and then check their answer. Students can learn the best approaches to problems. LaVallee asked about the longevity of the club; were the people in the club mostly upperclassmen? Also, how relevant do interview questions stay. Mason said that at the moment, there was a pretty good range of people involved. The demand would stay strong because companies like Google and Expedia are often on campus asking these styles of questions. Maile said that interview cycles for companies change, and occur in all different seasons. LaVallee wondered why they were becoming an AS club versus just a departmental club. Hayden said that it wasn't ideal for them to not be tied to anything.

AC-17-W-11 by Lutsch. Moved to approve WWU Whiteboard Coders as an AS club in the department Academic/Departmental
Second: Hunt-Paez Vote: 7-0-0 PASSED

IV. Club Name/Purpose Change

a. Hillel of WWU

Representatives: Alexander Gordon-Sandweiss and Lea L Sauder. Sauder said that for the past few years, they had been operating as a religious club, but the things that they do are not exclusively religious. They don't have a club rabbi or are affiliated with a congregation. The club is more made of people who share a cultural heritage. They had also experienced some anti-Semitism on campus recently, and were hoping that being a cultural/ethnic club would help stop that. There are also a lot of people on club who are ethnically but not religiously Jewish that the club would like to attract. Gordon-Sandweiss said that they could do larger events with an AS budget and attract more people. Sauder said that being more open and welcoming might be able to help tackle anti-Semitism on

campus. Johnson said that they're changing their mission statement, would they also be changing their category? Sauder said yes, they would become a cultural/ethnic club. Navarre asked how the club was hoping the AS would help tackle anti-Semitism. Sauder said that the ESC had resources that they could use, and that there could be confusion with discrimination based on ethnicity versus based on religion. Hayden asked what actual changes this would mean for the club. Sauder said quite little would be changed, since they don't provide religious services anyway. They wouldn't lead prayer, as they had previously done. Otherwise, not much would change.

AC-17-W-12 by Navarre. Moved to approve Hillel of WWU's statement of purpose change.

Second: Johnson

Vote: 6-0-0

PASSED

V. Bookstore Donations

a. The WWU Great Puzzle Hunt

Representative: Zoe Pollard. The club is requesting donations from the bookstore as prizes for their event. Pollard said that they were hoping to have 1000 attendees. Last year they had 300 attendees, but they were opening it up to community members this year. They're also holding the event on the same weekend as Western Preview. Pollard said that better prizes would attract more people. They expected to need \$3000 in prizes this year, but were asking for \$300 from the bookstore because they weren't sure how much they could get. Lutsch asked Hayden if it was policy or precedent to only give \$200. Hayden said it was precedent, and by no means set in stone. That was usually for silent auctions, and Lutsch said that this event was quite a bit different from that. Navarre said that seeing the amount of students, \$300 seemed like a reasonable amount. Johnson asked if there was admission for the event. Pollard said that there was, since they weren't getting donations from the school this year. Most of the admission was going towards food and printing costs for the puzzles.

To draw in as many people as possible, they're planning on having food, music, prizes, and cool posters. Lutsch asked what the crowd control would be. Pollard said that they were pairing with Western Preview for that. Red Square would be set aside for them for registration in the morning. Four puzzle locations are set up around campus. Teams will move from one puzzle station to the other, and rewards will be in Red Square at 4. Pollard said that there wouldn't be a lot of motion around campus besides between those stations. Because they didn't want Western Preview students eating the food for the Puzzle Hunt, there would be armbands for foods.

AC-17-W-13 by Navarre. Moved to approve the amount of \$300 in the form of a bookstore donation for WWU Puzzle Hunt for their event.

Second: Fossedal Vote: 6-0-0

PASSED

VI. Information Items

a. WWU Swimming

Representatives: Jackie, Caroline, Nick, Austin. Jackie said that they were asking for money for Nationals and pool space. They worked out the budget for 15 people. The estimate is \$8,700. They have some money in their account, but they have to pay for pool space. Caroline said that there would be out of pocket expenses for those attending, including registration and a travel fee. Lutsch asked how much they were asking for from the council. Caroline said that the request was about \$5,000. They sent out letters asking for donations from swim team alumni and also family members. They're doing a bake sale and might be working with a gelato company downtown to get 15% of their profits for a night. 17 people on Facebook seem interested, which is a few more than they were expecting. Navarre said that in the fall, they came to council asking for \$700 for pool space. Navarre asked if that and the dues had gone to pool space. Caroline said that it had. She said that last quarter, they had asked for the bare minimum from the

council. Jackie said that they didn't expect to get \$5000 from the council. Navarre asked them about their experience last year. Caroline said that she and Jackie weren't able to go because they couldn't afford it; the out-of-pocket price was \$450 per person. Nick and Austin said that they went there last year, and they got to see Olympians. This is one of the biggest meets in the country; people of all ages go to compete. Jackie said that it was a very inspirational experience to swim with Olympians and see people of all ages swimming. Caroline said that all other meets were paid for out-of-pocket by members, and Nationals was the only meet that they asked for funding for. Johnson asked how much they would be willing to pay out-of-pocket if they didn't get all the funding. Jackie said that it would be \$580 per person if they didn't get any funding. That would also greatly decrease the number of people willing to go. Nick said that last year, they regretted asking for so little. Navarre asked if clubs could "double-dip" from Activities Council and the SEF. Hayden said that he wasn't sure, since the guidelines for the SEF weren't fully formed yet. Hayden said that one thing that might help the council is equating some number with the number of people going. He asked for the club to break it down for how much people would be willing to pay X amount of money. Lutsch said that since WWU Swim was usually an athletic club, Activities Council and its funding wasn't really set up for this kind of money. Jackie said that somehow in the past, they became an AS club, but were hoping to become a sports club again in the future.

b. Demography Club

Representative: Robyn Young. Demography Club is requesting \$900 for students to present at a conference in Portland, Oregon. Young had a breakdown of the costs, but the money she was requesting would pay for the hotel room. The sociology department would be paying the rest. Navarre put in that this would be \$180 per person

per night. Lutsch said that usually, the council liked hotel rooms to be about \$150 a night, but they could work with it. Hayden asked Young to explain what the sociology department would be paying. Young said that the department couldn't pay for everything, but they were paying for part of this conference for five club students and ten additional students who weren't in the club. Lutsch asked Hayden if there was a danger of this coming from DRAC funding, and Haden said no. Johnson asked what had already been paid. Young said that registration for the conference had already been paid out-of-pocket, but the students would probably be reimbursed. Hayden pointed out that with this funding, the council would still be under the conference funding for the year. Navarre asked if Young knew how much had been requested from the council last year. Hayden said that it was \$1000 for five people. Navarre said that she would feel comfortable voting on this today rather than making people come back next week.

AC-17-W-14 by Navarre. Moved to suspend the rules of operation and move the Demography Club's request to an action item.

Second: Johnson Vote: 6-0-0 PASSED

AC-17-W-15 by Navarre. Moved to approve the amount of \$900 in the form of a grant to Demography Club from club conference funding for their trip.

Second: Hunt-Paez Vote: 6-0-0 PASSED

Lutsch reinstated the rules of operation by acclamation,

c. Western's Contemporary Dance Club

Johnson said that her club had had three successful meetings so far this year. The club was being held in the Commissary for free. The dance and concert faculty has priority for booking rooms, and took the club's spot. The Ree Center is the most accessible place for all the members, and the club has to pay to rent a space. Johnson gave a number for renting the room for this quarter, and an additional number for next quarter. Hayden asked if Johnson thought that they

could get the commissary back next quarter. Johnson said it would be easier for members to stay in the ree center. Lutsch asked if Johnson had considered holding meetings in VU 467, which had been renovated for dancing. Johnson said that it probably wouldn't be big enough for the new members that they were hoping to get.

VII. Action Items

a. Collegiate Washington Music Educators Association

Representatives: Lacey Knudtson and Marissa Brookhart. Brookhart reminded the council from last meeting that they were asking for funds to go to a conference in Bellevue. They were asking the council for help paying for lodging for 60 people. The club would provide some of the money, and the music department would pay for part. Johnson asked if the council asked last week for new numbers. Brookhart said that someone was going to go to a DRAC meeting. Hayden said that CWMEA does not get DRAC funding, but ACDA does. Navarre asked how many times CWMEA had gone to the trip and asked for funding for it. Brookhart said that the club had been asking the council for funding for about four years. This was their one big trip of the year that let them learn and network. Lutsch pointed out that \$2700 divided by 60 people was well under the usual amount that the council gave, and he was comfortable with the amount.

AC-17-W-16 by Johnson. Moved to give \$2700 to CWMEA in the form of a grant for their conference from the club conference fund.

Second: Navarre

Vote: 6-0-0

PASSED

b. Student Economics Association: Western Cares Clothing Drive

Representative: Sam Schultz. Schultz explained that they are requesting \$295 for publicity, and possibly \$20 for buying coffee from Woods. They are getting a donation from Rocket Donuts. This will be a fundraiser for the Opportunity Council, a 501c3 in Bellingham. The event is Western approved. The event is going to be February 2nd in

Red Square and on Vendor's Row. Schultz said that they had all the materials they needed, except for publicity. Navarre said that Activities Council could not do reimbursements. Schultz said that a few of the things on the budget had already been purchased. Rutledge asked if Schultz had already put a request in through the Publicity Center. Schultz said that they were going through Print and Copy Services. Navarre asked if they had a design already. Schultz said that they had a rough design, and showed it to the council. Hayden said that when you do benefit fundraising, there's fundraising where the whole event is a benefit. In that case, all the profit would be donated. Another event would be one with donations as an auxiliary piece. 100% of those donations can be given to a non-profit. Hayden said that this event had to be delineated as one of these or the other. Schultz said that they were primarily having free-will donations. Lutsch clarified that the price without the reimbursements would be \$218. There was some dialogue on donation bins, and what parts of the event would be donatable. The council talked about who would own the banner once it was printed and finished. Schultz planned on putting the logos of organizations involved on the banner and whitening them out later. The council questioned the longevity of this banner, since Schultz's plan was to reuse the banner later. Lutsch said that a paper banner with the logos might be better, and more cost-effective. Johnson asked if Schultz had put in the order to Print and Copy Services yet. Schultz said no; the order would take two to three days. Johnson said that in her experience, it took a little bit longer than that. Lutsch asked what the process would be for getting logos on the banner. Schultz said that any club that was involved could get their logo on the banner. Hayden suggested maybe leaving the banner blank and taping logos to it as needed. Schultz said that taking all of this into account, he would like to print the banner blank and then add logos as needed. Navarre asked if the banner would be stored in

the club closet. Schultz said yes. Jackson asked if some kind of document could be written up about the use of the banner. Schultz said yes, but it would probably not be written by him. Lutsch said that usually the council tried to agree unanimously, but that was not a requirement and people were allowed to vote any way that they felt. Johnson asked how much it would be for a paper banner. Navarre said \$90, for a glossy banner. Matte would be even less but not as good quality. Hayden said that logos would be difficult to blow up. Lutsch asked that the AS logo be put on the banner, to signify that it came from the AS.

AC-17-W-17 by Jackson. Moved to approve \$220 for the Student Economics Association for their Western Cares event as a grant from Grants, Loans, and Underwrites.

Second: Fossedal Vote: 4-1-1 PASSED

c. WWU Hikes

Representative: Danny Fratella. Fratella said that there was a renewed interest in their club. Thirty to fifty people attend the meetings on Wednesdays, and anywhere from ten to thirty-five people go on the Saturday hikes. The money that Fratella is asking for would go to buying Northwest Forest Passes and Discovery passes. Four cars usually go on these trips. Navarre asked if these passes would be stored in the club closet. Fratella didn't know that there was a club closet, but agreed. Fratella thought that maybe students who wanted to go hiking in the middle of the week could use them. Navarre said that she would be more comfortable if the passes were being used for the most club members possible, and Lutsch agreed. He suggested that there could be a sign-out sheet to keep track of the passes.

AC-18-W-17 by Johnson. Moved to approve the amount of \$295 in the form of a grant from Grants, Loans, and Underwrites for WWU Hikes.

Second: Hunt-Paez Vote: 6-0-0 PASSED

VIII. Large Event Opportunity Fund Information Items

a. AS Environmental and Sustainability Programs

Representative: Anna Kemper. The event is called “A Change of Course”. The money that is being asked for will go towards a speaker. The event is having several speakers who are advocates for the environment. Eriel Deranger, the speaker being funded by this money, is a Canadian native activist who will be part of the panel of speakers. The ESP is also working with the SIRC, the ESC, and a few other AS offices. \$5,400 will pay for flight, lodging, and the speaker fee. Navarre asked how much Activities Council gave last year for this event. Kemper said that they gave \$6,000. Navarre asked how much the ESP contributed. Kemper said \$900. The event will be free to attend. Kemper listed a few other funds that the money was coming from. Hayden asked if all the speakers were sitting on one panel, and who was hosting workshops. Kemper explained that Eriel as well as a few other speakers were hosting workshops. Navarre said that last year, they asked if the event could happen without the money. Kemper explained why not.

Walter Lutsch, chair pro tempore, adjourned the meeting at 8:18 pm on January 23rd, 2017.