



Western Washington University Associated Students Ethnic Student Center President's Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes for: Wednesday, April 19th, 2017

Non-Voting Members: Aleyda Cervantes (AS VP for Diversity), Simon Bahta (ESC Director), Lafayette Baker (ESC Assistant Director)

Voting Members: Meron Knutzen (ACC), Nathaniel Williams II (BSU), Christine Consolación (FASA), Masako Inoue (JSA), Ricky Rath (KhSA), Kathy Lee (KSA), Karina Quiroz (LSU), Elizabeth Perez (MEChA), McKenzie Bolar (MISO), Thu Nguyen (VSA), Vilay Lee (WHSa)

Absent: Dalton Jones (NASU), Alan Alatorre-Barajas (ESC Cultural Education Coordinator), Vicky Matey (Blue Group), Karen Liang (CSA), Meredith Karbowski (OSA), Cindy Marquina-Negrete (MEChA), Niveda Ganesh (SASA)

Guests: Carol Berry (Office of Sustainability)

Secretary: Julia Rutledge (Board Assistant for Club Committees)

Aleyda Cervantes, VP for Diversity, called the meeting to order at 5:07 pm on April 19th.

I. Revisions to the Agenda

Carol Berry was added to the agenda

II. Guest

A. Carol Berry

Berry introduce herself. She talked about the Alternative Transportation Fee Committee. She said that the student transportation fee is coming up for vote again this year. She explained that the fee is \$26.25 and for the Whatcom Transit Authority bus system. The fee includes funding the late night shuttle service. The committee is looking at improving the shuttle service to be responsive to individual student needs. Berry said that there are people on campus who are there to help students

figure out non-car transportation. Berry explained that the fee is cheaper than a usual bus pass because of the agreement that the WTA made with the AS. Berry encouraged students to vote in the AS election, and told presidents that it was up to them to ask their constituents to agree or disagree with the referendum. Nguyen asked if Berry was part of the process to change bus routes. Berry said that she attended the meetings as a representative for Western. Nguyen said that living on 32nd street, there were no buses after 12 pm. Berry said that she appreciated the input, and would pass it on to the WTA. The WTA has 3-6 months to make adjustments. Berry encouraged people who were affected by the changes to contact her. She then passed out handbills to the council members to take home, and to give to their clubs.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. April 5th

IV. Multicultural Center Fundraising Feedback

Cervantes said that she posted the questions from the feedback form two weeks ago online. She stressed the importance of presidents discussing these questions with their clubs. She asked presidents to give the feedback forms back to her, either in person or in her inbox in the Board of Directors Office. Lee asked when the schematics were finalized, and Cervantes said it would be Fall 2017.

Cervantes went over a packet that she passed out, and talked about what diversity meant to clubs since it's become such an overused word. She also asked for opinions on the quotes that were included in the back of the packet. Baker added that the architectural firm wanted three foundational statements and

three quotes that they wanted to embody the multicultural center.

Cervantes said that she talked to Eileen Coughlin, VP for Student Affairs(?), and they talked about gathering books for a reference library. They also talked about hiring more staff, such as a graduate assistant. Cervantes also asked about donors for programming. Nguyen asked if they would be doing the fundraising. Cervantes said that they would just be coming up with ideas for fundraising that other people would implement. She asked what club members felt were lacking in the ESC, and what could be created. She asked who would be helpful in the space, such as a full-time LGBTQ staff member and a tribal liaison.

Another question was if they wanted the ROP or KUGS in the multi-cultural center. Cervantes said the ROP would probably be better, but it would be expensive to add them. She said that they wanted to have a good relationship with those offices. Lately there have been more people of color working in the ROP, and more inclusion with the AS Restructure.

Cervantes said that she would be working with the new VP for Diversity to do an assessment of the ESC. This would help highlight the things that the ESC needs to work on, allocation of funds, etc. Consolación asked what the new library would look like: if it would have textbooks, or historical books, or novels. Cervantes said it was entirely up to the ESC. Quiroz suggested donating textbooks that the bookstore wouldn't buy back. The council also discussed having computers, printers, and places to plug in technology. Bahta asked people to remember that they were designing this for people in the future, and to consult with younger members of their club.

V. Other Business

Cervantes reminded people that everyone should get their Steering requests in soon. If the whole budget isn't spent, the budget for next year will be cut. She said that clubs could come to the Board and ask for money, because there was around half a million dollars in reserve. She also reminded people to fill out the survey that Hugo Chavez had put on Facebook about ESC Night Market.

Lee told the council that Steering had about \$4,000 left.

Cervantes said that if people needed money still, they could come to her and she could figure funds out.

Aleyda Cervantes adjourned the meeting at 5:53 pm.