



Western Washington University Associated Students  
**Legislative Action Council**

Monday, November 27th, 2017 8:00 AM VU 460

**Members:** *Present: Ana Ramirez (VP of Governmental Affairs), Rosa Rice-Pelepko (AS Legislative Liaison), Emma Scalzo (AS REP Organizing and Outreach Coordinator), Anna Kemper (AS Local Issues Coordinator), Giovanna Orecchio (Student at Large), Nicholas Horvath (Graduate Student), Victoria Matey (ESC Rep), Zoe Evans-Agnew (Student at Large), Casey Hayden (Coordinator of Student Activities), Peter Condyles (Student at Large) and Natasha Hessami (Student at Large).*

*Absent:*

**Advisor:** Casey Hayden

**Secretary:** Chloe Callahan

**Motions:**

**LAC-17-F-2** Approval for Giovanna Orecchio to be promoted to Vice-Chair of Legislative Affairs Council. *Passed.*

*Ana Ramirez called the meeting to order at 8:20 AM.*

**I. Introductions**

**A. Highlight thanksgiving**

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** LAC-17-F-2 by **Horvath**

Approval of the minutes for November 14, 2017.

Second: **Kemper** Vote: **8-0-0** Action: Passed

**III. Nominations for Vice-Chair**

Ramirez nominated Orecchio for Vice-Chair of Legislative Affairs Council.

**MOTION:** LAC-17-F-3 by **Horvath**

Approval for Giovanna Orecchio to be promoted to Vice-Chair of Legislative Affairs Council.

Second: **Kemper** Vote: **8-0-1** Action: Passed

**IV. Revisions to the Agenda**

Ramirez moved items A-J from Information Items to Action Items. The motion passed with acclimation.

**V. Action Items**

**A. VOTE Agenda Item**

**MOTION: LAC-17-F-4 by Evans-Agnew**

Approval of the Voting Accessibility Agenda Item.

Second: Rice-Pelepko Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

#### **B. Tuition Affordability Agenda Item**

**MOTION: LAC-17-F-4 by Orecchio**

Approval of the Tuition Affordability Agenda Item.

Second: Evans-Agnew Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

#### **C. Sexual Education Agenda Item**

**MOTION: LAC-17-F-4 by Horvath**

Approval of the Sex Education Agenda Item.

Second: Kemper Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

#### **D. Support for Undocumented Students Agenda Item**

Ramirez informed the committee that the item had been changed since the previous meeting. She added support for undocumented student's right to work on campus and WSU as an example of providing legal support for undocumented students. Matey said she added a part about sensitive locations and how there was no protocol or legal team at the university when they break the sensitive locations rule. Orecchio said that when she was reading into sensitive locations she found that sensitive locations did not exist within 100 miles of the border, and Western is within 100 miles of the border. She wondered if Western would count as a sensitive location. Matey said she had brought that up with the university President and community development. Ramirez said the committee should keep the sensitive location portion on the agenda because it will affect other universities within the state. Ramirez said she added a part about 1488.

**MOTION: LAC-17-F-4 by Matey**

Approval of the Support for Undocumented Agenda Item.

Second: Kemper Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

#### **E. Civics Education Agenda Item**

Evans-Agnew asked for clarification on who was being quoted or cited in the proposal. The committee decided to remove the quotations and have a general citation for that portion of the proposal.

**MOTION: LAC-17-F-4 by Horvath**

Approval of the Civic Participation Agenda Item.

Second: Orecchio Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

**F. Revenue Agenda Item**

Orecchio said she updated the revenue figures and made sure the cannabis tax was as accurate as possible.

**MOTION: LAC-17-F-4 by Kemper**

Approval of the Revenue Agenda Item.

Second: Horvath Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

**G. Support for Survivors of Sexual Assault Agenda Item**

Ramirez said the agenda item was the same as the previous year, with the addition of endorsements.

**MOTION: LAC-17-F-4 by Kemper**

Approval of the Support for Survivors of Sexual Assault Agenda Item.

Second: Evans-Agnew Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

**H. Student Success Agenda Item**

**MOTION: LAC-17-F-4 by Horvath**

Removal of the Student Success Agenda Item from the Legislative Agenda.

Second: Evans-Agnew Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

**I. Student Trustee Agenda Item**

**MOTION: LAC-17-F-4 by Rice-Pelepko**

Removal of the Student Trustee Agenda Item from the Legislative Agenda.

Second: Horvath Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

**J. Student Unionization Agenda Item**

**MOTION: LAC-17-F-4 by Horvath**

Approval of the Student Unionization Agenda Item.

Second: Orecchio Vote: 8-0-0 Action: Passed

**VI. Discussion Items**

**A. Final Language**

Hessami asked New York's new bill on free tuition could be mentioned in order to provide legislators with an example. The committee agreed with that idea.

Ramirez asked if she could bring the draft of the final agenda language to the board for review. The committee said yes.

**B. Next Steps**

Ramirez informed the committee that she would be bringing forward the approved agenda items to the Board of Directors the following Thursday.

Hayden asked who would be doing the final formatting. Ramirez said that she would probably do the formatting, but would inform anyone if an item needed to be cut short.

**VII. Reports**

**A. AS VP for Governmental Affairs**

Ramirez said that she would be out of office the following week.

**B. AS Legislative Liaison**

Rice-Pelepko mentioned when her next WSA board meeting would be and sent an invitation out to all members of the committee.

**C. AS Local Liaison**

Kemper said the following Thursday there was a planning commission meeting, it would be talking about Accessory Dwelling Units. In Bellingham it was hard to find housing in Bellingham that was affordable and there was a very low vacancy rate in the city, so hard to find housing as a student. At the time 70% of Bellingham is zoned only for single families, so the families could not building additions on their property, apartment above their garage or a cottage in their backyard, to offer affordable housing to students. A lot of people in Bellingham do not want to see this change, so student testimonies will be important at the meeting.

*Victoria Matey adjourned the meeting at 9:00 AM.*