



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

Monday, April 9th, 2018 4:00 PM VU 567

**Members:**

*Present: Simrun Chhabra (AS President), Rosa Rice-Pelepko (AS Legislative Liaison), Victoria Matey (ESC Rep), Casey Hayden (Assistant Director of Student Representation & Governance), Jordan Van Hoozer (ESP Rep), Zoe Evans-Agnew (Student at Large), Hannah Sear (Student at Large), Anna Kemper (AS Local Liaison), Emma Scalzo (REP Organizing and Outreach Coordinator), Greta Merkel (Student at Large), Colton Redtfeldt (Student at Large), Jacob Molloy (Student at Large) and Natasha Hessami (Student at Large).*

*Absent:*

**Advisor:** Casey Hayden

**Secretary:** Chloe Callahan

**Guest:**

**Motions:**

**LAC-18-S-1** Approval of the minutes for March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018. *Passed.*

*Simrun Chhabra called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM.*

**I. Introductions**

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**A. March 13<sup>th</sup>**

*MOTION: LAC-18-S-1 by Hessami*

Approval of the minutes for March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Second: Van Hoozer Vote: 12-0-0 Action: Passed

**III. Action Items**

**A. Local Lobby Day Agenda**

Kemper stated the agenda had not changed much since the last time the committee saw it. She mentioned most of the changes had been in the Equity and Inclusiveness section. The statements were kept broad so it could be expanded in the meetings with the legislators. Matey mentioned how Maru Mora Villalpando had been targeted by ICE. When she first heard about it she called city council to see what they were going to do about it and they ignored her. They want to ask the city council what initiatives they would take if this were to happen. Kemper said the agenda also talked about the food desert happening in the Birchwood Neighborhood. In 2016 the Albertsons was closed down and there was some form of contract that was not allowing anything else to be built there. This was making it harder for people to access food. Kemper clarified that the statements in the Equity and Inclusiveness section were not specific asks for city council because it was to get the conversation started. Molloy asked about lobbying etiquette in regards to how many asks the students should state in the meetings.

Kemper said she narrowed the agenda and asks down from the previous year. She hoped that LAC could pick specific asks for each section in the coming meetings so students lobbying had an area of focus. She mentioned when meeting City Council members we have more background information on them and can tailor the asks for that meeting.

***MOTION: LAC-18-S-2 by Kemper***

Approval of the Local Lobby Day agenda.

Second: Hessami Vote: 12-0-0 Action: Passed

**B. WSA GA budget proposal**

Chhabra introduced the budget proposal for the Washington Student Association spring general assembly with the change to the request from \$700 for dinner to \$350, making the total \$732 to cover all costs. Chhabra said she was still talking to stakeholders (GSAC, the Board of Directors, etc.) to gain interest and more attendees. Van Hoozer asked how we estimated the attendance of 14 students. Chhabra said 14 was the max they could take in the two AS Vehicles (7 people per car).

***MOTION: LAC-18-S-3 by Chhabra***

Approval of the Washington Student Association general assembly funding request for \$732 from the Legislative Action Fund.

Second: Evans-Agnew Vote: 12-0-0 Action: Passed

**IV. Information Item**

**A. Housing Panel Funding Request**

Kemper was hosting a panel to discuss the housing crisis in Bellingham in regards to availability and affordability of housing. There would be a comprehensive panel that was well versed in homeless and housing activism from varying viewpoints. As well as two people coming from Seattle. She was requesting funds for ice cream because the event would be tense and it could lighten the mood. The request also included gas funds for Seattle speakers, \$50 each. She said the request was so high because they would be getting regular and vegan ice cream from Mallards and Aramark would be compensated for serving the ice cream at the event. Chhabra asked if Kemper needed help with the event. She said she would love help in the event, but would discuss that closer to the time. Chhabra suggested sending an event invite out to the whole student body and especially the urban planning major. Van Hoozer also suggested the Industrial Design major.

**V. Discussion Items**

**A. General Assembly Proposals/Attendance**

Rice-Pelepko said there were 10 people signed up to go to the WSA spring general assembly. She said the deadline to RSVP was April 13<sup>th</sup> because they have to send the information to WSA by April 16<sup>th</sup>. She said Western had 8 votes and sometime next week the group that would be attending the general assembly would get together to talk about how to split up votes. She stated proposals were due that Thursday. She said she would be creating proposals in regards to State Need Grant (SNG) Entitlement and increasing the eligibility for SNG. She also suggested they bringing forward proposals that had not been successful the previous session: undocumented student loan program and support for survivors of sexual assault in regards to the APA. Rice-Pelepko asked the committee what proposals they would like to submit for

general assembly. Chhabra mentioned a couple projects the AS VP for Student Life was working on that Western could support. She suggested they should submit their Student Unionization proposal again. Chhabra also suggested adding Ethnic Studies K-12 to the proposal lists. Molloy thought they should focus on student unionization and housing affordability. Van Hoozer mentioned Western should support the Menstrual Products proposal because they saw a need during their Sustainability, Period event earlier in the year. Rice-Pelepko suggested that Western submit a statement of support for that proposal. The committee ended the discussion by deciding to submit proposals for SNG Entitlement, Increasing Eligibility for SNG, Loan Program for Undocumented Students, Supporting Student Unionization, and Ethnic Studies in K-12.

**B. Ideas for engaging student body**

Rice-Pelepko was thinking about putting on an event this quarter and wanted to work with LAC to reach the student body in a meaningful way. She asked that everyone think about ideas for an event and bring them to the next week's meeting.

**C. Potluck**

Rice-Pelepko said she sent out a link to a doodle poll and asked that all committee members respond.

**VI. Other Business**

**VII. Reports**

**A. AS Local Liaison**

Kemper said there was an event in Bellingham on Detached Accessory Dwelling Units that night and requested that people come to the event in support of DADUs because there would be strong opposition.

***Simrun Chhabra adjourned the meeting at 5:03 PM.***