



Western Washington University Associated Students Sustainability, Equity and Justice Fund

Thursday, February 28th, 2019

1:00PM

VU 462B

Members:

Present: Anne Lee (ASVP for Student Life), Scott Dorough (Campus Energy Manager), Nate Jo (ASVP for Business and Operations), Katie Winkelman (AS ESP Director), Crow Chloupek (AS SAIRC Representative), Aden Nevler

Advisor: Greg McBride

Motions:

- SEJ-18-W-14** Conduct edits on the minutes from February 21st and then conduct an e-vote to approve them. **Passed**
- SEJ-18-W-15** Approve the abstract for the Huxley Student-Centered space with the condition that the team provide more details on ownership of the room and the details of the lending library at the next stage. **Passed.**
- SEJ-18-W-16** Meet as a committee during prep week. **Passed.**
- SEJ-18-W-17** Meet as a committee during finals week. **Not Passed.**

Anne Lee called the meeting to order at 1:04pm.

I. Introductions

II. Approval of Minutes

MOTION SEJ-18-W-14 by Winkelman

Conduct edits on the minutes for February 21st and then conduct an e-vote to approve them.

Second: Chloupek Vote: 5-0-0 Action: *Passed*

III. Discussion Item

a. Student-Centered Space in Huxley

An issue that came up in the committee at last week was how the committee should give feedback to the grant proposers consistently.

Chloupek said that their concerns with the project is that the space could end up being SACNAS's responsibility to maintain the room. They would like to see some proof in the proposal that this is not what will happen with the space. Winkelman said that Shalini Singh would be a helpful stakeholder, but acknowledged that they have been busy with other things. Winkelman asked the group - conceptually, what does this proposal need in order to be approved?

Dorough said that he is prepared to approve this proposal although he has a lot of reservations. He believes this could be a setup for a space that is rather exclusionary in nature and goes contrary to the intention of diversity. He also said that this is a lot of money, and wondered what the benefit is for the university at large. He wondered what will be provided that won't be provided at the Multicultural Center when it opens up. Chloupek and Nevler responded that the space isn't really exclusionary, anyone can use the space, but it. Dorough responded that this idea reminds him of Jim Crow era segregation. McBride responded that students of color have asked that the MCC not be the only place where they see their identities show up. Students of color will feel more welcome in Huxley if there is a space that is designed for them.

Jo responded that once could argue that the ESC is an exclusionary space. This space wouldn't be only for this specific group, but it would be designed for students of color. Chloupek agreed and said that nowhere in the grant does it say that the space is only for students of color. They said that this is extremely different from Jim Crow segregation as the space would not be implemented as a systemic way to keep students of color out from other spaces.

Nevler brought back up the issue of the activities going on in this space. He pointed out how having a textbook library could get complicated. Winkelman said that the ESP runs a small library and it's worked pretty well and they haven't lost many books or had issues with theft.

Lee responded to Dorough and posed the question - what does it mean to have prioritized student of color spaces? They pointed out the fact that our campus is predominantly white, and that Huxley is very racially white, and they can't speak for POC in those particular spaces, but having spaces within Woodring like CEED or ESJ to connect with other peers who share similar experiences and feel safe to do that without having to respond to white peers has been integral for their well-being at WWU. They also pushed back on the assumption of it being exclusionary – who would be excluded? White students in Huxley can go anywhere on campus and feel comfortable, while students of color can't. Lastly, in terms of the potential lending library, Lee suggested that they look into how other spaces do lending library systems. It might require student staffing so that materials do not get lost.

Chloupek ended with the fact that the details about the lending library would come later in the development stage, and is not integral to the project at this point.

MOTION SEJ-18-W-15 by *Chloupek*

Approve the abstract for the Huxley Student-Centered space with the condition that the team provide more details on ownership of the room and the details of the lending library at the next stage.

Second: Winkelman

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: *Passed*

b. Meeting Times during Prep and Finals Weeks

MOTION SEJ-18-W-16 by *Lee*

Meet as a committee during prep week.

Second: Chloupek

Vote: 6-0-0

Action: *Passed*

MOTION SEJ-18-W-17 by *Lee*

Meet as a committee during finals week.

Second: Nevler

Vote: 3-1-2

Action: *Not Passed*

Anne Lee adjourned the meeting at 1:45pm.