



Western Washington University Associated Students
Activities Council

Meeting Minutes for Monday June 3rd, 2019

Present: Ama Monkah (AS VP for Activities), Ikenna Onukwufor (AS Clubs Business Director), Douglas Van Druff (AS Clubs Events Planning Facilitator), Ryan Mouché (Student-at-large), Rikua Rodriguez (Student-at-large), Selome Zerai (Incoming AS VP for Activities)

Absent:

Advisors: Jenn Cook

Secretary: Travis Felver

Guests: Sela Marino (Cosplay Club), Mallory Senter (Mystery & Occult Club), Ryan Meredith (WWU Racing), Harley Kyger (WWU Racing), Gabrielle Fisher (Spanish Board Game Club)

Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM

Motions

AC-19-S-42 Moved to approve the minutes for the 5-20 Activities Council meeting. PASSED

AC-19-S-43 Moved to approve Cosplay Club as a club under the Arts and music and the Special Interest Club categories. PASSED

AC-19-S-44 Moved to approve Mystery and Occult Club as a club under the Special Interests categories. PASSED

AC-19-S-45 Moved to approve Spanish Board Game Club as a club under the Recreational categories. PASSED

AC-19-S-46 Moved to approve 1,800 dollars from the Club Conference Fund for WWU Racing. PASSED

AC-19-S-47 Moved to change underwrites granted in the 2018 to 2019 school year to grants. PASSED

- I. Revisions to Agenda
- II. Approval of Minutes

AC-19-S-42 by Van Druff. Moved to approve the minutes from 5/20/19.

Second: Mouché

Vote 5-0-0

PASSED

III. Business Director's Report

- A. Grants Loans & Underwrites: \$8,080.33
- B. Bookstore Donations: \$0.00
- C. Club Conference Fund: \$2,034.62
- D. Large Event Fund: \$18,730.00

IV. Club Recognition

A. Cosplay Club

1. Representative: Sela Marino

- Cosplay Club will provide a welcoming environment for those beginning in the hobby as well as experts who would like to share what they know. This will foster a larger community and allow the exchange of skills in a community that is usually insular. There is plans to go to conventions and festivals to showcase projects throughout the year
- Monkah asked what kind of characters they dress up as. Marino responded all sorts, but primarily anime and video games.
- Zerai asked how they plan on funding the costumes. Marino responded they will hope to do some future fundraising, this is still being discussed.

AC-19-S-43 by Rodriguez. Moved to approve Cosplay Club as a club under the Arts and music and and the Special Interest Club categories.

Second: Mouché

Vote 5-0-0

PASSED

B. Mystery and Occult Club

1. Representative Mallory Senter

- The intent of this club will be to discuss supernatural and occult instances such as things like "if the loch ness monster were real how would that work" and allow a community of individuals who share the interest to meet.
- Zerai asks if they plan on being financially active. Senter said not yet and likely not for a long time.
- Mouché said there are a few clubs that are related to this, and suggested that they collaborate with them. Senter said they will be taking members from some of these others clubs as these have closed down

AC-19-S-44 by VP. Moved to approve Mystery and Occult Club as a club under the Special Interests categories.

Second: Onukwufor

Vote 5-0-0

PASSED

C. Spanish Board Game Club

1. Representative: Gabrielle Fisher

- The intent of this club is to encourage individuals to share and practice the Spanish language in a casual environment while playing board games. They have translated several games into Spanish already and use this to practice well.
- Zerai asked if meetings will be on or off campus. Fisher said mostly off campus. Monkah asked why they plan on being off campus. Fisher said they haven't discussed it fully, though Rook and Rogue provides an environment where they do not have to purchase games and are able to meet in a casual environments. Monkah suggested they meet on campus to increase accessibility.
- Van Druff asked if they plan on being financially active. Fisher said not at this moment.

AC-19-S-45 by VP. Moved to approve Spanish Board Game Club as a club under the Recreational categories.

Second: Mouché

Vote 5-0-0

PASSED

V. Action Items

A. WWU Racing (\$4,207)

1. Representative: Ryan Meredith, Harley Kyger

- The request amount has not changed dramatically since the last meeting.
- Monkah clarified this is for the rental car and gas. Kyger said yes.
- Monkah said they were waiting to see how much they raised through GIVE day and since they raised a lot of money, they do not think it would be a fair use of student funds to fund the whole request. Kyger asked how this would be fair considering the funds are going into reserves. Monkah said she feels more comfortable with it going into reserves since it can be used for other students from there. Rodriguez said just because it is going into reserves doesn't mean it is disappearing. Kyger asked how they are weighing the students on this team's request against other clubs. Rodriguez said that this is a lot of money to give to one club and it is in practice to not give such large amounts to any one club in order to make sure that other clubs can be funded. They also need to take into consideration that number of students in the organization against the size of the event, and larger amounts of money could help larger amount of people.
- Van Druff said they have been very stingy with clubs throughout the year, so it would not be fair to just give the large remaining amount to one club.
- Monkah said that the timing of the request isn't a factor, it is a large amount of money for any one club to ask for, and with the money going into reserves it can be used to support salaries and potentially other clubs next year.
- Cook asked what they are using their GIVE day funds for. Kyger said that they cannot use it this year, so they could not use the funds for the event regardless. The funds will go into

next year's build and supporting engineering, business, accounting, and design student projects, any leftover gets put away in savings.

- Mouché asked if they could do an underwrite this late in the year. Cook said an underwrite doesn't work for this, but they could do a loan. Mouché said they could grant part of it, and make the rest a loan in order to have them pay it back next year. Cook said they are crossing the fiscal year so they it would be difficult, this is a question for the Finance Manager, though she guesses no.
- Zerai asked how much is in their foundation account. Kyger between two and three thousand dollars which will be spent on the car. Zerai asked how much has been spent on the car. Kyger around 34,000 dollars.
- Onukwufor asked how much they need at this point to ensure that they can go on the event with the previously agreed 16 students. Kyger he does not have recent information to the foundation account, likely around 2,800 dollars and this number is more per student with less students coming. Onukwufor said he still feels as if this is too large of an amount of money to give to one club. Kyger said that based on prior conversations they were expecting to receive some amount. Onukwufor said they will, though not the full amount.
- Kyger asked how much is in the reserves currently. Monkah said there is not a specific number, and it is currently allotted to different things. Kyger said that based on an S&A meeting based on the scale of what is in the reserves the amount requested is negligible. Rodriguez said that even with it being a small amount they are staying within procedure with their savings. The amount that they are requesting has also changed dramatically within a short timeframe. Kyger responded that they have actually been able to decrease some of their costs.
- Mouché said that looking into the future, do they plan on asking for a large amount of funds from Activities Council again next year? Kyger responded that last year they were told this was an avenue to acquire funds, and if this will not be possible next year they will budget differently. They were not prepared to budget differently this year.
- Prokopenko asked if they pay dues. Kyger responded they do not pay dues, but many members cover large out-of-pocket requests.
- Monkah said that they should look into asking their sponsors for assistance in covering other expenses and it does not seem like they attempted to do this over the year. Kyger responded that they work on an annual basis, and the funds from one year cover the project in next year and that he has done as much as he can to lower costs where he could.
- Rodriguez asked what the lowest amount they could receive and still go to the event. Kyger responded that he cannot confidently give an estimate due to lack of knowledge in the account, and the fact they are still spending on the car in preparation for the event.
- Van Druff said that if this event had come in Fall or Winter quarter, they definitely would not have approved the event and it feels that they feel they are entitled to the funds simply because it is leftover.
- Zerai asked if they have reached out to sponsors or other sources of funding since the last conversation. Kyger responded that every source that could give donations has already, and most of their sponsors donate materials and services. Rodriguez said that this should be a focus, in meeting with local businesses asking for money to sponsor them, which has proven

to be successful in the past. Kyger responded that they have reached out to business before May 20th, and have been denied several times.

- Onukwufor said that the sponsors must care that the cars must be shown, and asked if they ever discuss the issue with transportation with the sponsors. Kyger responded that they have a sponsorship package where they promise to provide social media coverage along with other gifts that has the company specify where they would like their sponsorship money to go. None have donated to transportation, and very few do cash donations.
- Onukwufor asked how they do the accounting for this project, since if they do this every year they would have better accounting management which would tell them how much the project should cost on a yearly bases. Kyger responded that he and Ryan run a master account, which handles most purchases, and they work with admin in the engineering department to be ready to account for outside issues, like how the major which runs their workspace is disappearing, causing them to have to pay for consumables which was previously un-needed. This pattern necessitates working on an annual basis with their budget, and most of their fundraising happens at the end of the year with GIVE day. Meredith said that the amount they need to spend at each step is not consistent year to year, such as needing more members this year than in previous years to ensure the continuity of the club.
- Onukwufor said that they need to prioritize between juniors and seniors. Common practice in Activities Council is to send very select members, then they come back and share their experience with the rest of the club.
- Monkah asked if the GIVE day match means they received double the amount. Kyger responded that due to the large amount of donations received only around twenty percent of donations were matched and the process was not transparent as to why some donations were not matched.
- Zerai asked how much they raised on GIVE day last year. Kyger responded 4,500 after matching and this did not cover expenses from last year, around 5,000 dollars.
- Monkah asked what they would do if they were unable to fund anything. Kyger responded they would pull from reserves which would exhaust their supply and potentially cripple the club.
- Rodriguez asked where the event would be next year. Kyger responded in California, which would make it cheaper next year. Rodriguez asked if that means if they do the same level of planning this year, they could make up for the reserves they'll be taking. Kyger responded that it is the same policy as to why Activities Council does not want to reduce the amount going into reserves.
- Mouché said he is ok with funding 1,500 up to 2,000. Monkah and Rodriguez said this still feels like too much. Cook said this is an unusual club doing unusual things with unique needs. Mouché said that WWU Racing is much more organized with fundraising than other clubs, and this event would be incredibly beneficial to the school and the students' careers.
- Onukwufor asked how much the engineering department is contributing. Kyger responded not at all. Onukwufor asked why not. Kyger responded that this is likely because of the other department that they worked with (which is now going away) which stopped the need and they historically have not shown any interest.

- Monkah said that next year the people who are not as necessary for working on the car and going to the event could work harder to find sponsors and funding for rental cars and transportation. They should also be more willing to use the funds from their reserve as that is the intent of a club account. 2,000 feels like too much money
- Van Druff said 2,000 is an acceptable amount. Zerai said between 1,200 and 1,500 would be more appropriate. Kyger said the reserves argument is incredibly frustrating, seeing students pay into the fees just for it to go into reserves.
- Onukwufor said they are still weighing the benefit it will be bringing back to the school. Kyger said that any non-senior student that is going is doing it to work on their career as employers in this field do not reach out to Western.
- Zerai asked how many times they have gone to this conference personally. Kyger responded twice, and both time he was required for the success of the team, and will be graduating this year. Meredith said this will be the first year, and if everything goes according to plan he will go both of his next year. Kyger said that this is unusual and most members will only go once in their time at Western, potentially twice due to the amount of dedication and work is required to become that essential to the team, especially with how expensive it is to bring large amounts of students.
- Van Druff asked how many people would be going to the conference for the first time this year. Kyger responded about half of the team, they have had a good amount of people step up in leadership this year, usually you need to be on the team for two or three years before students put in enough work to be essential to go.
- The council discussed numbers that they would be comfortable with giving. Onukwufor said that they feel comfortable with 1,800 dollars from the Club Conference Fund. Kyger responded that this is acceptable. Onukwufor suggest that next year they start budgeting for transport earlier to ensure that they have the funds needed to go and reach out to the engineering department for funds. Kyger responded he is speaking with them daily about concerns, the department is unwilling to work the club on this.

AC-19-S-46 by VP. Moved to approve 1,800 dollars from the Club Conference Fund for WWU Racing.

Seconded: Mouché

Vote 5-0-0

PASSED

VI. Information Items

VII. Council Review

A. Bellingham Order of the Saber

- Onukwufor said that the Bellingham Order of the Saber used the money that was approved for sabers for safety masks. VP asked if matters how they spent the money based on changing priorities. Onukwufor said that the safety issue was important, but clubs should not change how they are using granted funds. Monkah said that this is a case-by-case basis and this time it

makes a lot of sense. Onukwufor said they spent the same amount of funds. Mouché said that this means they will likely come back next year with a request for funds to buy sabers.

- Onukwufor asked how the council was feeling about turning previous underwrites with clubs into grants to forgive the clubs that still have not paid them back. The council agreed this would be a good move.

AC-19-S-47 by Zerai. Moved to change underwrites granted in the 2018 to 2019 school year to grants.

Seconded: Rodriguez

Vote 5-0-0

PASSED

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM