

**Western Washington University
Legislative Affairs Council
December 1st, 2020 MS Teams**

Board Members: *Present:* Nicole Ballard (VP for Governmental Affairs), Nathalie Wagler (Voter Recruitment and Engagement Coordinator), Jude Ahmed (Director of Legislative Affairs), Natalie Szabo (Local Liaison), Daniela Rodriguez (ESC Representative), Breaker Chittenden (Student At-Large), Kaeli McKinley (Student At-Large), and Jennifer Leveque (Student At-Large).

Secretary: Sierra Templeton

Guest(s): None

Motions:

- LAC-20-F-11** To approve the meeting minutes from the date of November 6th, 2020, with the addition of Chittenden to the present attendance. *Passed.*
- LAC-20-F-12** To approve the meeting minutes from the date of November 10th, 2020. *Passed.*
- LAC-20-F-13** To approve the WSA Dues funding request. *Passed.*

I. Call to Order

Nicole Ballard, VP of Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

II. Additions and Changes to the Agenda

None

III. Approval of Minutes

A. November 6th, 2020

MOTION LAC-20-F-11 by Chittenden

To approve the meeting minutes from the date of November 6th, 2020, with the addition of Chittenden to the present attendance.

*Second: Ahmed Action: **Passed***

B. November 10th, 2020

MOTION LAC-20-F-12 by Ahmed

To approve the meeting minutes from the date of November 10th, 2020.

*Second: Chittenden Action: **Passed***

IV. Information Items

A. Western Lobby Day Agenda 2020-2021

1. Ahmed stated that Ballard and herself added an equity statement at the beginning of the agenda, calling on legislators to take action on community driven initiative, and to state that ASWWU recognizes the right of students to feel safe in higher education. It also states that Western Washington University supports the Washington Roundtable's goal for 70% of Washington high school graduates earning a post-secondary credential by 2020.
2. Ballard stated that this was an umbrella topic but was changed to a statement as all the asks could fit under other items.
3. Wagler asked if this is for student lobbyists to read before going into the agenda, or just for legislators to read. Ballard responded that this will appear on the contact page for legislators.
4. Hayden stated that the most recent college debt number is 27 billion dollars, so there should be a couple edits on the numbers under college affordability. Ballard added that she is still getting information on how this ask can relate to the Washington College Grant.
5. Ahmed stated that the environmental justice ask needs to have consistent wording with the rest of the items.
6. Ballard stated that she will send the mental health and wellness paragraphs to stakeholders to see if there is anything to add or change
7. Ballard stated that the header for Mandatory DEI training was changed. The item asks for mandated staff training, and Ballard is trying to include disability training and LGBTQ+ training within the ask, as well as including campus wellness services within the training.
8. Szabo stated that since sometimes the issue is that staff doesn't attend the training, perhaps change the language to make sure it is not optional for staff and faculty.
9. Ahmed stated that legislators may feel that they don't have the purview to tell faculty what to do, which she heard from professors as well. This is why it may be beneficial to leave the wording a little more vague, but she will talk to staff lobbyists about this.
10. Ballard stated that she added in the effects of COVID-19 on supporting survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence. Bills will be dropping over Winter break, so there may be more context and support added.
11. Ballard stated that she is waiting for more feedback on the Coast Salish Longhouse ask.
12. Ballard stated that she added the ask for requiring in-depth protocol for universities to prioritize undocumented student's safety, modeled off of AB-21 in California.
13. Ballard stated that she is still working on the ask to expand the SNAP program on a state level, since it is a federal program.
14. Ballard stated that she added dedicated revenue asks that were not passed last legislative session.

V. Action Items

A. WSA Dues Funding Request

1. Ballard stated that WSA dues are usually paid in two increments, but this year she is proposing one.

MOTION LAC-20-F-13 by Chittenden

To approve the WSA Dues funding request.

Second: Szabo

*Action: **Passed.***

VI. Discussion Items

A.

VII. Reports

Natale Szabo, Local Issues Coordinator stated that the meeting date with Lisa Pool regarding zoning laws around housing has been solidified, for January 12th from 4:00-5:00 p.m. She is getting out publicity for the meeting and will likely make a presentation so students can ask questions.

Jude Ahmed, Director of Legislative Affairs, stated that she scheduled five meetings with legislators in the upcoming weeks, and is excited to talk about legislative priorities.

Nathalie Wagler, Organizing and Outreach Coordinator, had nothing to report.

Nicole Ballard, AS VP for Governmental Affairs, stated that she had nothing to report, but thanked LAC members for attending the meeting so early in the morning and stated that she appreciated all the feedback.

VIII. Other Business

A. None

Nicole Ballard, AS VP of Governmental Affairs, adjourned this meeting at 10:00 a.m.