

Western Washington University Associated Students Activities Council Meeting

Monday, October 27, 2008 VU 567

Present: Matt Jarrell, Steve Reno, Casey Hall, Anna Ellermeier, Courtney Taylor, Brad Pederson, Nate Wallace, Kayle Walls, Aaron Garcia, Brittany Smith, Kendra Shirley

Absent:

Advisor(s): Lisa Rosenberg, Natalie Green, Kira Freed

Secretary: Meghan Sweeney

Guest(s): Jessica Sele, Jenny Henley, Helen Jones, Misty Fall (Women's Action Patrol), Cory Hoffman (Transport), Stephanie Singer (BBSM), John Hartiness, Gina Roust, Emily Jerome (WWU Neuroscience Club), Dillon Thomson (Against Civilization), Ariel Wetel, Karim Ahmath (SDS), Mari Rueter (Out of State Student Association), Chris Godwin, Vickie Motter (Harry Potter Club), Jordan Bright, Katie Chugg (Fairhaven Free Press), Drew Thayer, Alex Freund (Viking Mini-Baja Racing Team),

MOTIONS

AC-08-F-33	Approval of the minutes of Monday, October 13, 2008
AC-08-F-34	Recognized Women's Action Patrol as an official AS Social Issues Club with \$50 basic funding with the stipulation that they hold off on the patrolling until they work with Rosenberg and Hayden. (Passed)
AC-08-F-35	Recognized Transport as an official AS Social Issues Club with \$50 basic funding. (Passed)
AC-08-F-36	Recognized WWU Body Building Club as an official AS Recreation Club with \$50 basic funding. (Passed)
AC-08-F-37	Recognized Against Civilization as an official AS Environmental Club with \$50 basic funding. (Passed)
AC-08-F-38	Move to suspend the bylaws to put the Neuroscience Club as an action item to get money for their National Conference of the Society for Neuroscience. (Failed)
AC-08-F-39	Approve OOSSA for \$800 in form of an underwrite out of grants loans and underwrites account with the stipulation that they increase their publicity. (Passed)
AC-08-F-40	Approve Harry Potter Club for \$553 in form of underwrite out of grants loans and underwrites account. (Passed)
AC-08-F-41	Approve Fairhaven Free Press for \$400 in form of a underwrite for the Fairhaven Free Press out of grants loans and underwrites account with the stipulation that the AS logo and a recycle logo are both on the paper. (Passed)
AC-08-F-42	Approve Viking Baja Cars for \$1750 in form of a grant out of the Grants, Loans, and Underwrites account with the stipulation that an AS 100 year logo sticker goes on the car. (Passed)

Matt Jarrell, A.S. V.P of Activities, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion AC-08-30 should be out of the club conference account.

MOTION AC-08-F-33 by Reno

Approval of the minutes of Monday, October 20, 2008

Second: Ellermeier

Vote: 10 - 0 - 1

Action: **Passed**

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Revisions to information items and the action items. Adding Information items A, B, and C.

III. BUSINESS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Club conference funding is \$15,000 for the year. This is about \$5,000 a quarter and the Council has already allocated about \$3,200. The Council has \$30,000 in grants, loans, and underwrites and are really supportive of the events that support the campus community. However, they Council has only been given \$15,000 to send clubs to conferences and Walls wants the Council to keep in mind that there is not a whole lot of money to send clubs to conferences. Also, Swing Kids might be giving \$200 back to the Activities Council.

IV. CLUB RECOGNITION (Basic Funding if Indicated)

A. Women's Action Patrol

They are a social justice group that is going to branch off of the Women's Center. They plan on working towards preventing, harassment, assault, rape, and all forms of violence against women. They are committed blanketing the campus community with an anti-violence agenda. Some events and activities they are planning to offer are self defense classes, consent workshops, educational classes on where a rape culture comes from, and make t-shirts that say "No means no!". They hope to abolish the rape culture that is prevalent in our society and spread awareness of their cause by being physically present. They want to let people who feel emotionally and physically unsafe know that they have allies. They will be patrolling downtown around bars and parties on weekends to promote a safer environment. They are in the mission statement planning stage and are hoping to go off campus and spread awareness. They plan on doing the patrolling more in the future and they think that it may happen with an off-shoot group that is not tied to Western. Shirley asked what their off campus activities would entail. The guest answered that they were going to act as a witness so that the community, especially the females in the community, knows that there are other women working towards preventing violence. They are not going to be a confrontational group; they just want to be visibly and physically supportive of women. The group plans on having conflict resolution workshops and staying in contact with the police. Walls brought up that the Western Men Against Violence and they had a program that was non-confrontational and he wanted to know how they planned on distinguishing themselves from similar groups and how would they work with these groups. The guest noted that there is a really strong connection there and that they would be more than willing to collaborate with these groups. They feel that they are very distinct as far as a new idea goes. They would be a consistent volunteer group that would be big and focused on having a patrol group which would be made of volunteers and focus on taking action. They want to do letter campaigns to groups that they feel have been taking an opposite view of theirs, one that supports a rape culture.

Rosenberg brought up the idea of a stipulation about the downtown patrol part of the club be held off until she and Hayden are able to work out the specifics with the club. They would like to work with university police and talk to them about keeping in contact with the patrol. They want it to be pretty big especially in the more risky areas such as High Street. They want to be a noticeable presence. Ellermeier wanted to know what the activist part of the patrol would look like. They are figuring out their mission statements and once they have that foundation they will then move to figure out what the "patrol" part would look like. They want to establish a group of women to serve of allies for those who are subject to acts of

violence. They think that it would be valuable to just have a lot of campus awareness that there is a club that provides an ally to women. Taylor noted that whenever she called Green Coats a man showed up and she feels that it speaks volumes to have a woman come to the aid and be a physical and emotional representation of an end to violence. By having a woman come to the aid of another woman it would show an end to the perpetuation of violence against women. Hall wanted to know if this is a man inclusive and transgender inclusive club and the guest clarified that it is targeted towards a female identified audience but the meetings are all inclusive. They would like to have the patrol be women because it is very empowering.

MOTION AC-08-F-34 by Jarrell

Recognized Women's Action Patrol as an official AS Social Issues Club with \$50 basic funding with the stipulation that they hold off on the patrolling until they work with Rosenberg and Hayden.

Second: Wallace

Vote: 11 - 0 - 0

Action: **Passed**

B. Transport

The purpose of this group is to support those who fall under the transgender spectrum. It is also inclusive to allies. There will be events that are open to everyone. Jarrell noted that the wording on their request form sounded exclusive and wanted them to make sure that they use inclusive phrasing.

MOTION AC-08-F-35 by Reno

Recognized Transport as an official AS Social Issues Club with \$50 basic funding.

Second: Hall

Vote: 11 - 0 - 0

Action: **Passed**

C. WWU Body Building Club

Purpose is to help people challenge their physiques and taking their bodies to the next level. Currently there is about five individuals who are competitive body builders and there are about 15 students who have signed up for the club already. They are interested in getting a better diet and work out. There are six girls that are interested. One thing that they really would like to focus on is investigating their supplements. They want to take supplements and bring them to the organic chemistry professor and figure out what is in them, what they do, and if they are worth putting money into. The Recreation Center owner, Ron, would like to put on a body building competition in March and is looking to this club to start that. It is not just about competing but to increase the human physique.

MOTION AC-08-F-36 by Walls

Recognized WWU Body Building Club as an official AS Recreation Club with \$50 basic funding.

Second: Smith

Vote: 11 - 0 - 0

Actions: **Passed**

D. Against Civilization

Purpose is to discuss current environmental issues and the ineffectiveness of the current environmental movement. They want to dismantle stereotypes, especially about terrorism. They are not advocating anything but are just validating. The guest listed many issues that currently plague our planet such as children in slavery, toxins in the human body, overfishing, and the loss of the polar ice caps. He noted that when these things occur we all lose. This club would be all about raising awareness and challenging our thinking. They have come to the conclusion that it is industrial civilization that is causing a lot of the turmoil in our world. Would like to draw attention the major environmental issues of our planet and how they are going to impact life on the planet. Ellermeier wondered what the phrase "we

need organized political resistance” in their mission statement actually entailed and if violence was one of the means to get “organized political resistance.” The guest stated that they are not advocating violence at all. They are however open to validate violent acts in the pursuit of justice. It was wondered where they would draw the line. The guest responded that they are not going to tell people to go out and commit acts of violence. The guest does not have a definition of violence but he does recognize that violence is all around us and that those in power are committing acts of violence everyday. Everyone is externalized to this violence. Shirley noted they would need to be careful about saying that a movement is valid and not actually condoning people to go out and commit these acts. Jarrell noted that from his experience so far with this group he notices that they are a discussion club and not an activist club. There will be events, specifically speakers.

MOTION AC-08-F-37 by Reno

Recognized Against Civilization as an official AS Environmental Club with \$50 basic funding.

Second: Shirley

Vote: 10 - 0 - 1

Action: **Passed**

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Beehive Collective

The club turned in the request three weeks before the event instead of four weeks. This was because they had some miscommunication with the Beehive Collective on setting a date for them to come to campus. Casey Hayden told them to turn their in just in case. They think that the event is still important to have because of its emphasis on diversity as well as a global perspective and how our community is related to the broader global community. They use animal metaphors and art to teach about struggles with globalization abroad. The group is from Maine and is currently on tour. They will be in Portland and are traveling to Vancouver and it would be wonderful to have them. They can just drive through Bellingham on their way to Vancouver. The event is set for November 5th and Jarrell is unsure of how doable this event is because a contract would have to be drafted and that will take about two weeks. He also noted that the club has co-sponsorship with MEChA. He said that he got an email saying that their club had just become an information item for the Steering Committee. He noted that if they were approved for the money from MEChA they would not event get the money until the day before the event. The club has the VU gallery reserved already. Garcia stated that the timeline is not good and he thinks that it would be a better event for the future. Since it is only one day and a few of the council members agreed. Hall stated that since it involves a speaking fee, this event would require a contract. It is for this reason that the Activities Council requires four weeks notification.

NO MOTION

B. Neuroscience

The National Conference of the Society for Neuroscience is taking place November 14th to the 19th. The club’s goal is to get more people involved in neuroscience. They promote involvement in the community and have research seminars where there is peer to peer learning. The conference has about 35,000 scientists that show up. It is six days of presentations and information. The guest got to go last year and was not prepared for how eye opening it was. It made him want to promote the club and go to graduate school for neuroscience. They were late because they wanted to open the event to everyone. There were a few students who were going to go in the first place, Now there are 5 students who want to go and it is more than the club can afford. They need the funding to help these students to go. They cannot afford to send all of the students to the club because they are

using \$700 of their own money to send the original students to the conference. Garcia stated that one of the requirements for receiving funding is explaining what the campus would gain from the club attending the conference. The guest noted that there is a research seminar series that occurs once a month and it involves peer to peer teaching. Those who go to the lectures will come back with a lot of information on the subject of neuroscience. The guest thinks that the outreach aspect is even greater. They are taking on three high schools to teach lessons on science. Their information is new and exciting. There will be two members presenting at the conference and there will be a total of seven students going.

They were instructed to ask for their money in the form of an underwrite. There is money that comes back to this club and they would be able to give back. The club is only about a year old. They have done a lot for fundraising and were able to raise \$700 just by handing out flyers. They chose the five people carefully. The guest noted that neuroscience is a very competitive major, and attending this conference would be a great opportunity for anyone perusing the major. The five people are the ones who will most benefit by the experience for their futures. Their decision also depended on people's schedules and how much they were willing to sacrifice. Some of the costs are going to be out of the student pockets. The five people they chose are the most involved in the club. Garcia was concerned with the timeline and the precedent that it will make for the AC. They have tried hard to not ask the AC for money. They are just asking now so they can expand the experience for more people. They have plans for more fundraising. They talked to the western foundation and were thinking of talking to club member's families, biotech industry, and the neuroscience institute for additional funding. They would even be open to putting part of the money as a loan. There are sophomores, juniors, and seniors represented by those who are going to attend the conference. They are just looking for the hotel to be paid for. The money would be coming out of academic conference account. It was noted that there are very few academic clubs who are quite so creative in their fundraising and have raised this much money.

MOTION AC-08-F-38 by Taylor

Move to suspend the bylaws to put the Neuroscience Club as an action item to get money for their National Conference of the Society for Neuroscience.

Second: Walls

Vote: 3 - 4 - 4

Action: **Failed**

Taylor Left

C. Japanese Conversation Club.

This club is requesting \$45 in the form of an underwrite for the Japanese Conversation club. They need more money for the JSA Halloween Night which was passed last week. The actually event is on Friday. Twenty five dollars are going towards the set up of the room and \$20 for purchasing pumpkins. Wallace reminded that the council just denied two clubs based on deadlines. Shirley noted that it seems people in the club could pitch in a few bucks and raise the money to pay for set up and pumpkins. Jarrell apologized that he did not let the guest know that there was a deadline. They have not used their \$50 basic funding but were hoping to save it for future events. Walls said that the bylaws are there for a reason and it all comes down to the fact that it takes a certain amount of time to get things taken care of. This event is already in motion and so prices would not change.

NO MOTION

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. OOSSA

OSSA is a Social Club that gets out of state students together to become familiar with the Bellingham and campus community. They do many events such as potlucks, trips downtown, pumpkin carving and an end of the year bash. The club is asking for \$700 in the form of an underwrite for all of their events for a year. Shirley noticed that the pumpkin carving was scheduled for this week and the Council just rejected a club who was asking for money for the same week and time. It was discussed that because this club is asking for a lump sum the request is different. It was also noted that even if the club did it separately they could have just used their basic funding. There is no airfare or traveling involved either. They have not included publicity in their itemized list and Walls noted that he would like to see some publicity. They have a booth at red square and use word of mouth for their publicity. Walls stated that he would recommend that they ask for \$800 and try to build up their publicity.

MOTION AC-08-F-39 by Reno

Approve OOSSA for \$800 in form of an underwrite out of grants loans and underwrites account with the stipulation that they increase their publicity.

Second: Ellermeier

Vote: 8 - 0 - 2

Action: **Passed**

B. Yule Ball

The Harry Potter Club is requesting \$553 for their second annual Yule Ball. They have the MPR already reserved as well as two confirmed bands. They are looking into a local band as well. The event is scheduled November 15th. They are using student catering which is less expensive and there will be cookies and punch. They are putting more money for publicity this year. They had about 65-70 people come last year and they are very excited. Garcia noted that they should not publicize their event before it is confirmed. Smith asked if they were getting co-sponsorship from RHA. The guests answered that they will not know until two weeks from now. There is a potential for a financial return to the AC. They have not done any fundraising but will look into it.

MOTION AC-08-F-40 by Garcia

Approve Harry Potter Club for \$553 in form of underwrite out of grants loans and underwrites account.

Second: Ellermeier

Vote: 9 - 0 - 1

Action: **Passed**

C. Fairhaven Free Press

The Fairhaven Free Press is requesting \$400 to print their fall issue. They will be returning in winter and spring to get funding for those issues as well. They have not done any fundraising yet but are looking into it. The club will be printing 2500 and there is no tracking of how many are actually taken. It is quarterly because they are here on campus through out the quarter. The topics are more of human interest and tend to have more longevity. Jarrell brought up that the council could just multiply this number by three so they don't have to come back. However, there was a problem with this notion because if they give them that much money there would be less of a motivation to advertise for the free press.

MOTION AC-08-F-41 by Reno

Approve Fairhaven Free Press for \$400 in form of a underwrite for the Fairhaven Free Press out of grants loans and underwrites account with the stipulation that the AS logo and a recycle logo are both on the paper.

Second: Wallace

Vote: 9 - 0 - 1

Action: **Passed**

D. Viking Baja Cars

Viking Baja Cars is requesting \$1,750 to pay for tools and a mobile tool box for the WWU Baja SAE team. This will provide resources for the club that will stay with the club and be reused by future students and team members. They have approached companies that sponsor the club for money but have not been granted it for these tools. Their request for tools did not make it to the corporate level and so they received no aid for their tools. Garcia noted that they will have to take into consideration that they are giving them a large amount of money and it may be difficult for them to give them money in the future. The guests noted that they can look for money in other areas for the future. They have been able to get discounts and those discounts were included in the itemized list provided to the Council. It was suggested that if they were willing to network, they could look into students from marketing department and communicate the clubs mission to these departments. The guest made it clear that the sooner they get the tools the better. They are planning on starting to get into the construction of their models in winter quarter but would like to have the tools as soon as possible.

MOTION AC-08-F-42 by Walls

Approve Viking Baja Cars for \$1750 in form of a grant out of the Grants, Loans, and Underwrites account with the stipulation that an AS 100 year logo sticker goes on the car.

Second: Garcia

Vote: 9 - 0 - 1

Action: **Passed**

VII. BOOKSTORE DONATION REQUEST

VIII. Other Business

Jarrell wanted to know if they want to keep the revisions to the agenda. The Council thought that it was unpleasant and awkward and would not like to continue this. It seems that the consensus was that the bylaws are the bylaws. Garcia thought it was a good experience for the council to see firsthand. Many of the council members thought that it was not just the bylaws that made them vote against these clubs, but it was the fact that their arguments were not strong enough. Walls felt that there is exclusivity in the AS and not all students come out of high school knowing the system of how things work in this organization. Hall noted that, although Walls statement was true, this is good training for the real world. He also felt that these specific clubs had money in their account and could use that instead of going to the Council. Overall the members agreed that it was not worth setting a precedent. Many of these clubs know the system because they have been around for a while. Garcia noted that this is a good week to clarify and make the council strong for the rest of the year. Rosenberg noted that there is a lot of emphasis now on the time lines. It was a tough decision for every council member to make. Since Activities Council is a council of their peers the members do have to remember that they are not above everyone else. Garcia noted that he liked having the clubs come and plea their cases, but this time it seemed that none of the clubs made a strong enough case for their club. This process did take an additional thirty to forty minutes and it made those who had their paper work in on time to wait. Jarrell stated that he made it clear that the clubs who would be coming will most likely not be receiving money. Last year, clubs who did not get their paper work in on time would be presented as an information item. The Council likes the idea of hearing clubs cases, but now this will take place at the end of the meeting in the other business section of the agenda.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 7:50 P.M.