GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

This meeting was facilitated both in-person and via an online Zoom format.

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

MEETINGS

MEMBERS PRESENT – Jade Tsao, Josh Rubinoff, Autumn Alaniz-Wiggins, Chloe Renner, Mujtaba Azam, Gianna Echavez-LaRocca, Kaylee McAllister-Knutson, Krystal Alvarez (2:46 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT – Allison Wagner (excused), Jay Friedman

OTHERS PRESENT – Kendra Wright, Lexi Extein (recorder), Hugh Hammond, Shar Krater, Kyle Alsberry, Jon Slaughter, Curtis Sicheneder

I. CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Tsao, called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

II. MECHOOPDA LAND RECOGNITION – The meeting started with the reading of the Mechoopda Land Recognition Statement.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Approval of the 2/8/23 regular meeting agenda. Tsao said Business Item A. is being removed from today’s agenda and requested a motion to do so. Motion to remove Business Item A. from the agenda (Rubinoff/Wiggins) 5-0-0 MSC, Motion to approve the 2/8/2023 regular meeting agenda, as amended (Echavez-LaRocca/Renner) 5-0-0 MSC.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of the 1/25/2023 regular meeting. Motion to approve the minutes of the 1/25/23 regular meeting, as presented (Alaniz-Wiggins/Echavez-LaRocca) 5-0-0 MSC.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

VI. PUBLIC OPINION – Limited to items on the agenda, three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic – None

VII. STUDENT ACADEMIC SENATE (SAS) REPORT – Action Items forwarded to the Government Affairs Committee from the Senate stand approved unless overturned by a 2/3 + 1 Committee action.

A. Student Academic Senate (SAS) Committee – No meetings held.

VIII. BUSINESS

A. Discussion Item: Megan Kurtz regarding off-campus student services – This item was removed from the agenda.

B. Discussion Item: 12/31/22 Activity Fee Fund Budget vs. Actual – Wright shared that we are at end of second quarter. The goal is shooting for 50% or below original approved budget, and the numbers shows we are tracking well. Shows areas to be aware of, and if we are over finding out why. Revenue will vary in several areas in relation to Activity Fee with GAC, approximately 46.89%. Other Expenses include contract programs, corporate services, activities fees and student programming are a little bit under budget, spending $330,000 out of the budgeted $973,000. Under budget is okay, shows we are aware of where student dollars are going. Simplifies we have more income coming in then we are spending. McAllister-Knutson asked if the Activity Fee reserves is where SOEAF comes out of, because if so it should not be zero. Slaughter said SOEAF is in student programming, and comes out of the $110,000 as well as revenue sharing. The activity reserves in this budget is a formula done through budgeting where they set aside a percentage for unforeseen expenses throughout the year. It is rarely used. Wright focused back to Activity Fee operational expenses. Budget for wages was $158,000, currently at $99,000. Employee benefits very close. General operating expenses at 35% because we are being cautious of where money is going. Overall, they are in a nice sweet spot at 54.6%. Government Affairs, we are under budget, means we haven’t over extended. At 212% of budget due
to adding Involvement Coordinators, who were not originally under Government Affairs. They are being paid out of us, so under student wages, the $11,000 did not include front desk. This line item will be revised to include front desk IC’s and Lexi under 0146. Campus Programs represents the Child Development Lab. Community Programs represents CAVE. CDL is under and CAVE is also in “safe zone”. Total expenses YTD is $844,786. Budgeted for $2.4 million. Only at 35% and staying under 50% is ideal. Thanks students and staff for making wise decisions and not over-spending.

C. Discussion Item: 12/31/22 Activity Fee Fund Capital Expenditure Report – Wright said they don’t have any capital expenditure. Wright defines capital expenditure as anything over $5,000 and shelf-life over one year. They do not plan to purchase anything that would pull from it. They have placeholder if an emergency were to happen. Should not change in quarter 3 or 4.

D. Discussion Item: Local Agency Investment Fund for quarter ending 12/31/22 – Wright explains LAIF is our investments, and that they do not invest in high-risk stocks. This means low risk, and slow and steady wins the race. Under second line in Activity Fee, under quarter two average daily investment is $1.2 million. Interest earned is $26,229.66. Balance is almost $4.9 million. Asks if anyone knows what the Activity Fee reserves are. Rubinoff asked if it was $2.5 million. Wright corrected it is $4.8 million and represented on this report.

IX. ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS – Rubinoff gave run down of bills discussed during CSSA: Assembly Bill 26, Assembly Bill 35, Senate Bill 1, Senate Bill 25. All related to student loan debt forgiveness initiative under the Biden administration, happening in local California Legislature. Designed to make an individual’s discharged student loan debt tax exempt upon the enactment of the Student Loan Debt Relief plan. There’s chance they don’t get passed. This may have to be worked into budget later on. Senate Bill 11 is in the process of being written, states that it will keep state legislature from contracting out mental health services in the CSU system. Echavez-LaRocca wants to know if that’s bad or good. Rubinoff said he has not “picked a side”. Renner wants to know if that means the state has to hire counselors. Rubinoff stated that he believes that’s the case, and they would not be able to be contracted out. The majority of counselors are currently contracted out. Rubinoff says that CSSA seemed to be against the bill, and they’re looking for a long-term solution to supply full-time counselors for campuses. If we get rid of contracting, then forced to hire full-time counselors. Rubinoff stresses it will make problem that already exists, worse. McAllister-Knutson agreed it is already hard to get counselors. Echavez-LaRocca agreed. (Alvarez entered the room at 2:46 p.m.). Tsao asked if anything else to report. Alaniz-Wiggins stated great weekend, with Victory Unity. Thought it was individual event Black Student Union was hosting, but turns out they do it annually. Hardy Brown was amazing and gave us a significant discount. We have the spring part of the clothes-swap in collaboration with GSEC at the end of February. Working with OPS to have a display on the 3rd floor for most months native American/indigenous with black history month being the trial. Looking to have women’s history month and working alongside OPS and SLL.

X. STAFF REPORTS – Wright says thank you for participating during spring training, and thanks students for being a great team and their amazing work. She has sent email with calls to action to establish office hours with school schedule. She will touch base with them during appropriate time frames. She will have one on ones with them to touch base on their duties. Expect that on Outlook and accept/decline please. Monday is the launch for elections, 11am first floor of BMU. Please swing by even if not on office hours.

XI. CHAIR REPORT – Tsao said spring training at WREC, team building was great, finish term strong.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Tsao said happy Wednesday.

XIII. PUBLIC OPINION – None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Tsao, adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.