

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Friday, October 25, 2019

1 p.m.

BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT- Anthony Ruiz, Trevor Guthrie, Alejandro AlfaroRamirez, Breanna Holbert, Allyah Perez, Lupe Santana, Sydney Puccetti, Mary Wallmark

MEMBERS ABSENT – Jared Geiser (excused), Jay Friedman

OTHERS PRESENT – Jon Slaughter, Katie Peterson, Sarah Fenton (recorder), Chris Taverite, Kaylee Biedermann, Amanda Widgay, Jamie Clyde, Alex Smith, Chelsea Lund, Noah Levinson, Ilana Friedman, Ryan Rosenbaum, Kristy Collins, Mary Newnam, Jake Pate, Tyra Burks

I. CALL TO ORDER - The Chair, Ruiz, called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

II. AGENDA – Motion to approve the 10/25/19 regular meeting agenda (Puccetti/Perez) 5-0-0 MSC.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

V. PUBLIC OPINION – None.

VI. BUSINESS

- A. Action Item: Approval of DAC allocation for \$1,950 for the 'Town Hall with Neil Lazuras' event by the Chico Hillel club to be held 11/5/19 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. in BMU 210. **Motion to approve DAC allocation for \$1,950 for the 'Town Hall with Neil Lazuras' event by the Chico Hillel club to be held 11/5/19 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. in BMU 210, as presented (Perez/Santana)** The group discussed the pros and cons of allowing a potentially controversial speaker on campus and what it would look like if the Government Affairs Committee were to approve or deny the requested funding. Ruiz recognized the gallery. Levinson feels that this is a free speech issue if it's not approved because the speaker coming to campus would be informational and is very knowledgeable regardless of his background. (Guthrie joined the meeting at 1:06 p.m.) Lund encouraged the group to come to the event because it will be dialogue in respectful conversation. AlfaroRamirez's concern is that he is a speaker with a pro-Israel viewpoint which wouldn't be appropriate at this point in time. Guthrie mentioned that if officers and students don't agree with the speaker, it's good because it creates conversation and knowledge of new topics on what is happening through academic conversation. AlfaroRamirez stated that he will have no part in approving this. Guthrie mentioned the liability piece to this and that legal fees are expensive and could be far more detrimental to go that route by not approving them because of the speaker. Holbert said she is voting yes on this because free speech is important. **5-1-0 MSC.**

VII. REPORTS: OFFICERS – **Perez:** The Safety Walk is coming up. **Biedermann:** The corn hole tournament is today from 3 – 5 p.m. on Yolo field to break the world record for number of people playing at the same time.

VIII. REPORTS: STAFF – Peterson: She is proud of everyone for this challenging discussion and situation and thanked Chico Hillel for coming in and using their voices.

IX. REPORT: EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT – None.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

XI. PUBLIC OPINION – Limited to three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic – Levinson hopes to see everyone at this conversation moving forward in peace.

XII. FOR THE GOOD OF THE GROUP – Ruiz now has Little Miss Sunshine from Mattea Bertain. AlfaroRamirez shared that there is a protest on pro-life outside of the BMU today. Wallmark shared that this is a good example of people mobilizing in protest for something that they do or don't agree with.

XII. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Ruiz, adjourned the meeting at 1:49 p.m.