ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO
BELL MEMORIAL UNION COMMITTEE MEETING
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Zach Scott, Caitlin Wirth, Gilberto Maldonado, Gracie Pachie, Art Cox, Annabel Grimm, Joel Ramirez

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ashish Sahota and Cristina Perez, Christian Weaver (all excused)

OTHERS PRESENT: David Buckley, Karen Bang (recording), Jamie Clyde, Curtis Sicheneder, Shar Krater, Colette Young, Katrina Robertson

I. CALL TO ORDER – The chair, Scott, called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

II. AGENDA – Motion to approve the 4/2/19 agenda, as presented (Wirth/Pachie) 5-0-0 MSC.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of the regular meeting of 3/12/19. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of 3/12/19, as presented (Pachie/Wirth) 5-0-0 MSC.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

V. BUSINESS

A. Information Item: SFAC Project Proposal from Tom Rider – This item was moved up to be Information Item V. A. Rider said he submitted a SFAC proposal for a new dish machine for the Marketplace, which exceeds the SFAC allowance of $50,000. Clyde explained that SFAC generally allocates around $50,000 per semester for projects. She said there is a large reserve of $300,000 but SFAC can’t exceed its semester allocation unless approved by BMUC to do so before the SFAC meeting is held. Clyde said if BMUC likes the project Rider is presenting today and think it’s good enough to go in and compete at SFAC, then could approve that SFAC go into reserves. Rider said the current dishwasher is a left-over from Whitney Hall and is oversized for the space in the Marketplace. He noted that tens of thousands of dollars have been spent over the past few years on repairs. The project would include the replacement of the current dish washing machine with a more energy and water efficient model. He noted that 1,712 gallons of water would be saved over an 8 hour dishwashing shift; 348,160 gallons of water saved over the course of the next academic year. The current machine uses 2,680 gallons of water for a two-hour shift. Rider explained that the current external steam generator in the BMU is antiquated and needs to run at all times, even when the dishwashing machine is not in use. The new machine will heat water internally with an electric coil, and only when operational. Rider said total estimated cost would be $103,775.28. Discussion was held regarding the proposed purchase. Buckley said the committee could vote on this item next week, or if can’t meet next week, could move this item to Emergency Action today. He advised that Scott will be unable to attend next week’s BMUC meeting. Action would be taken so that SFAC would know that BMUC approves going into the reserves for $103,775.28. Motion to move to emergency action (Pachie/Wirth), Clyde explained that if this item is not funded via SFAC, it would have to be paid for through the Dining budget. Scott said reserves are at approximately $350,000. 5-0-0 MSC. Motion to pull from SFAC reserves, increasing the amount by $103,775.28 for a new dish machine for the Marketplace if project approved by SFAC (Maldonado/Wirth) 5-0-0 MSC.

B. Information Item: Student Union Budget (including Capital Expenditures), estimated results 2018-19 and proposed budget 2019-20 – Clyde provided an overview of the Student Union Budget, starting with review of the Student Union Net Asset Reserve Analysis as well as the Student Union Fund for the BMU. She explained the various programs that fall under the Student Union Fund. She noted that AS Productions, FLO and WLI are now Union programs. GSEC is no longer charged rent as they are no longer located in the BMU. Clyde explained that due to Follett Wildcat Store commissions declining, all areas are now holding onto their true cost instead of being reimbursed by the store. Buckley said when AS oversight of the store went away, areas of corporate overhead were not able to reduce their costs. $350,000 was coming from the Bookstore to share within areas. Some of the money coming from Follett was going to Corporate Overhead but now Activity Fee, Union and Dining have to make up the difference, in the amount of $53,500 each. Clyde said regarding Other Income, the Marketing area has been reduced because Dining Services has their own marketing coordinator now. Regarding Salaries and Benefits, Clyde said that Krater’s position, as well as an additional programmer were added, and the WLI Director
position was removed. Regarding the Student Union Fund Net Asset Reserve Analysis, Buckley said it’s important to review this page because as a committee they need to know where the Union is going and if we are financially solvent. It was noted that the Union has a very large reserve, which is good because it helps over a period of years and avoids student fee increases. Sicheneder reviewed the WREC budget, noting it mirrors much of what the Student Union budget does. He explained the various projects that funnel up to the overall WREC Wildcat Budget. Sicheneder said between the Camp Fire, weather and the Government shutdown, Adventure Outings was hit pretty hard.

C. Information Item: Wellness Center – Scott thanked everyone for their feedback regarding the Wellness Center and noted feedback was also received from various areas on campus. He reviewed Programming suggestions, such as classes for yoga, healthy cooking, nutrition, meditation/stress reduction, alternative medicine and art. Other suggestions included counseling, live relaxing music, Cal Fresh help, space for Adulting 101 programs, frequent therapy animal visits and informational classes. Sicheneder said the sixth focus group will be held tomorrow and pretty much what is on Scott’s list is what he’s hearing. He said counseling, or peers to talk to and listen have been frequently mentioned. He said both open areas and private spaces have been suggested, as well as frequent Adulting 101 classes. Scott next reviewed therapeutic ideas such as aromatherapy, “open practice” yoga times, steam room, acupuncture, massage, art and music. Sicheneder said although students want steam rooms, in higher education recreation areas, they’re rather looked down upon because of maintenance needs, costs and nefarious activities that can take place in them. Sicheneder advised that students have said they wouldn’t pay $5 to $10 for massages; they want it but don’t want to pay for it because they don’t have disposable income. In the “Other” section, Scott said space was suggested for prayer, meditation, non-textbook lending library, and a creative space. Furniture was also discussed. Scott said students are concerned about where current programs found in the BMU basement would be housed. Clyde said Sustainability and another program could move to the third floor of the BMU, where the Zen Den is currently located. She said Marketing and Adventure Outings would remain in the basement area. Sicheneder said each of the focus groups are concerned about their areas, then concerned about all students, then all view space as wellness from a preventative model; a place where students can come to for self-care. Discussion was held regarding counseling services for students.

D. Information Item: 2/28/19 Combined Student Union and WREC/AO Summary Income and Expense Statement – Clyde reviewed the February financials, noting the Student Union expensed 55.66% of the annual budget and generated 98.29% of projected income.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT – None

VII. WREC DIRECTORS REPORT – Sicheneder reported that the WREC Risk Management Committee does an annual audit of a programming area and they completed an audit for open WREC, specifically in the weight room. In addition, fire drill trainings were recently held. He said he will be meeting with the FMS Grounds supervisor regarding soil issues in the grassy area outside of the WREC. The Banff Mountain Film Festival is April 11 and 12 and is nearly sold out.

VIII. ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Clyde said Choose Chico is this weekend and they’re not sure how many will be attending because hotels are still full due to the Camp Fire. She said there were 131 volunteers for Cats in the Community yesterday, which went to nine sights. Alumni partnered with them this year. Clyde said April is Earth Month and Sustainability has a lot planned. She said the recruitment process for Deborah Lemmo’s position has begun, as Lemmo is retiring. Clyde said discussions have been held with FMS regarding the rodent issue and they’re requesting $20,000 to take care of the problem. Clyde said a Social Media Policy is being prepared due to a couple of posting incidents.

IX. VP APPOINTEES’ REPORT – Absent

X. CHAIR’S REPORT – Scott said SFAC proposals were sent to committee members. Rubrics are due to him by 5 p.m. Friday. The SFAC meeting is Friday April 12 from 2 to 5 p.m. in BMU 209.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Krater said the next Adulting 101 will be held on April 11.

XII. PUBLIC OPINION – Limited to three minutes per speaker, five minutes for entire topic – None

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Scott, adjourned the meeting at 9:22 a.m.