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

Tuesday, April 14, 2015  2 p.m.  BMU 205

MEMBERS PRESENT- Jeffery Zawoysky, Michael Pratt, Taylor Herren, Kassandra Bednarski, Courtney Silver, Jordan Walsh, Anita Zamora, CC Carter

MEMBERS ABSENT- Darion Johnston (excused), Susan Anderson

OTHERS PRESENT – Nicole Lung, Shar Krater, Riley Wood, Jon Slaughter, Ewan McCloy (recording),

I. CALL TO ORDER - The Chair, Zawoysky, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

II. AGENDA – Silver requested to add Information Item: SCOOP. Motion to approve the 4/14/15 regular meeting agenda (Bednarski/Silver) 6-0-0 MSC.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Timmons had a write up of the announcement that will be sent out tomorrow for AS elections.

V. PUBLIC OPINION – None

VI. OPINIONS – None

VII. BUSINESS

A. Action Item: Revisions to Associated Students Corporate Code Book – Activity Fee Net Assets Fund Balance Reserve Policy, including title change to Activity Fee Net Assets Reserve Policy. Motion to approve revisions to Associated Students Corporate Code Book – Activity Fee Net Assets Fund Balance Reserve Policy, including title change to Activity Fee Net Assets Reserve Policy, as presented (Herren/Pratt) – Slaughter said last meeting this was brought to the committee from Susan Jennings about discussing reserve policies. This will not change operational policies but is just cleaning up the language so that it is consistent with other reserve policies. Slaughter reviewed the policy changes. 6-0-0 MSC.

B. Information Item: Activity Fee Fund Overview, estimated results 2014-15 and proposed budget 2015-16 – Slaughter explained that this will be a continuation of the introduction from last week on the budget for this coming year. There was a question on making a change to the budget and when this should be entertained. Next week’s meeting is the plan to approve the budget so that the budget can go to BOD by the end of the month. The process of revising the budget is simple and to simply say what you want to change once there is the motion to approve the budget. Slaughter wanted the committee to address changes in the specific categories that they are in. He highlighted that the safety fund, Cats in the Community, and other student run programs will most likely be the area in which the budget can be revised at next week’s meeting. Silver asked about whether or not there will be certain position changes next year and whether or not this will be reflected in the budget. Slaughter said that the budgets reflect that, so the money stays but the positions may be hired later on. He used the example of having the Outreach Coordinator doing the roles of the Elections Coordinator rather than hiring for the two separate positions. Bednarski asked in the case of not hiring then where does this money go. Slaughter said if we know that the positions won’t be hired then in the midyear revisions the money can be reallocated or goes to the reserves. Krater said that there may need to be an increase in front desk staff. Slaughter reminded the committee that there is $141,000 currently unallocated. Any or all of the funding can go to certain programming and Slaughter is confident that the sustainability of this money should not be an issue. Zawoysky put together an ad hoc committee to talk about the B-Line and stances and options for funding the program. From this meeting, the plan to move forward was to pay the 60% of the contract and hope that the University will uphold their 40%. If they don’t decide to go with this split then it will be discussed more with the committee to come up with new ideas. Jarquin said that some of the ideas were if this split wasn’t honored then there would be Saturday cuts, then honoring the academic year more closely, looking at specific routes, and then the voucher system. Herren said she hopes that there will be a lot of negotiating and discussion from this committee next year for the University to uphold their amount of the B-Line contract because it isn’t fair to the AS to be paying incrementally more than previously. Silver
said that everyone on the ad hoc committee will be diligent in following this plan as well. Zamora asked when we would know about whether or not the university will commit to this and Slaughter said that he will be communicating with the contract renegotiation that is coming up soon. In the past the honorarium to the contract has always been 60-40, so there should and hopefully will not be a change here. Slaughter wanted to share with the committee that the additional B-Line subsidy is around $52,000 and if we accept the contract the way it comes across then this money will come out of the $141,000 unallocated. The knowledge of whether or not the University accepts the 60-40 will not be known by the time to approve the budget, so Slaughter recommends keeping the amount of allocation at this maximum. He also appreciated the ad hoc committee taking the time to discuss the B-Line at length. Jarquin said this would be the appropriate time to discuss increasing AS program budgets and she wanted to know thoughts of the committee in specific programs that they would like to increase. Herren said she would like to suggest putting aside some money for programming next year to the springtime involvement fair and voter registration awareness, potentially in the amount of $5,000 or $10,000. She hopes this would ignite creativity and allows committee members to go forward with their ideas. Slaughter noted that there has been an increase $15,000 for outreach, $1,250 for time capsule, downtown planter, $3,000 for safety fund, $2,500 for Cats in the Community, $2,000 for Good Morning with GAC, $4,500 for Wildcat Week/Way/whatever other alternative programming, and $5,000 for International Festival. Bednarski clarified that the Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drug Conference travel is included in the safety fund, which is for roughly $1,200 – $1,500. Carter suggested a funding cost going to GAC, similar to DAC and EFAC. Herren wanted to bring next week ideas for how certain dollars are approved and accessed. Bednarski suggested having an ad hoc committee for this excess amount of money. Bednarski asked about lowering the amount of DAC and EFAC funding to $35,000 and Slaughter had it up to $40,000 currently for the sake of consistency in the budget. Walsh discussed the amount of people coming to DAC and EFAC is currently quite low and would like to decrease the amount to $30,000 for the committees for the sake of actually using this money elsewhere in the budget. Pratt said the previous issue of funding is based on the knowledge and cycling of leadership. Jarquin asked if this money could go into publicity specifically for DAC and EFAC. Herren wanted to bring next week ideas for how certain dollars are approved and accessed. Bednarski suggested having an ad hoc committee for this excess amount of money. Bednarski asked about lowering the amount of DAC and EFAC funding to $35,000 and Slaughter had it up to $40,000 currently for the sake of consistency in the budget. Walsh discussed the amount of people coming to DAC and EFAC is currently quite low and would like to decrease the amount to $30,000 for the committees for the sake of actually using this money elsewhere in the budget. Pratt said the previous issue of funding is based on the knowledge and cycling of leadership. Jarquin asked if this money could go into publicity specifically for DAC and EFAC. Carter said that an issue with bureaucracy has made organizations who attempt to get funding uncomfortable so they don’t return so finding a way to streamline the process of funding could be necessary. Silver also wanted to make sure that this process wasn’t made to be too easy either. Herren had a suggestion of having some sort of grant writing or proposal writing workshop for DAC and EFAC, similar to what committees like SFAC have. Herren also does not like the idea of cutting money that is readily accessible for organizations. Lung suggested easy promotions that could be utilized from the improvements to the BMU with technology. Walsh sees issues with multicultural organizations having issues with their feasibility of putting on events and wanting money to be put to helping support the people in these organizations. Jarquin discussed funding for co-curricular activities and supporting the student senate. (At 2:51 p.m. Zawolsky handed the gavel to Herren to be the Chair). Slaughter suggested solely putting funding to the student senate and they can focus on programming. Pratt said many organizations want to put on innovative programming and this is a current issue. Jarquin said the discussion on increasing funding for specific AS programs would be needed and this can be discussed at the ad hoc committee made earlier in the meeting.

C. Information Item: Activity Fee Administration Budget, estimated results 2014-15 and proposed budget 2015-16 – Covered in Information Item B.

D. Information Item: Activity Fee Capital Expenditures Budget, estimated results 2014-15 and proposed budget 2015-16 – Covered in Information Item B.

E. Information Item: Government Affairs Office Budget, estimated results 2014-15 and proposed budget 2015-16 – Covered in Information Item B.

F. Information Item: Elections Budget, estimated results 2014-15 and proposed budget 2015-16 – Covered in Information Item B.

G. Information Item: Corporate Services Fund and Area Reimbursements Summary – Covered in Information Item B.

H. Information Item: SCOOP – The committee decided that this would be discussed at next week’s meeting at the beginning of the agenda.

VIII. REPORTS: OFFICERS AND COORDINATORS – Reports were skipped for the sake of time.

IX. REPORTS: STAFF – Reports were skipped for the sake of time.
X. REPORT: EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT – Reports were skipped for the sake of time.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Jarquin told the committee to focus on invitations for the end of the year reception. Jarquin said International Festival is next Saturday. Herren and Zawoysky will do a year-end assessment with everyone in the office to discuss transitions, how the space is, and whatever people would like to include in feedback. Bednarski recommended people go on Action News to look at a story that was recently discussed on a man who was assaulted by two Chico PD officers. Zamora said that the time capsule burial will be April 28 at 1:30 p.m. This event will still be partnered with alumni. Wood reminded the committee to vote tomorrow in the AS elections.

XII. PUBLIC OPINION – None

XIII. OPINION – None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT – The Interim-Chair, Herren, adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.