ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS BUSINESSES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 12, 2018  2 p.m.  BMU 205

Members Present:  Taylor Rogers, Megan Odom, Dan Herbert, Stacie Corona, Michelle Korte, Roman Aguirre, Ethan Dilley

Members Absent:  Miguel Maldonado

Others present:  Karen Bang (recording), Jamie Clyde, Susan Jennings, Sarah Foisy, Elaine Kramer, Corinne Knapp, Katrina Robertson, Thang Ho

I. CALL TO ORDER – The Chair, Rogers, called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

II. AGENDA – Motion to approve the 2/12/18 agenda (Odom/Herbert) 5-0-0 MSC.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of the regular meeting of 1/29/18. Motion to approve the minutes of the 1/29/18 regular meeting, as presented (Herbert/Corona) 5-0-0 MSC.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

V. BUSINESS

A. Information Item: Going Straw-less Campaign – Kramer presented regarding the campaign to go straw-less in campus dining areas. She said Chico currently has a Chico’s Last Straw campaign. She said she attended a meeting that included many businesses here in town who have started this campaign locally, which is also a national campaign. She explained that half a billion straws are used in the U.S. per day. She said plastic straws are not accepted at most recycling facilities, are considered one of the top 10 items of ocean pollution, and straws also have an impact on existing recycling programs. She said the state of California is trying to pass a law that sit down restaurants will have to go straw-less although self-serve beverage areas would not be affected. Kramer reviewed the local participating businesses and groups in Chico (Korte joined at 2:07 p.m.) and said they would like to include our AS logo in their campaign. She said Dining Services would like to discontinue the use of plastic straws in all campus dining locations. She said as an alternative, paper straws would be available if a customer asked for a straw. She said, in addition, they’re also looking at possibly selling bamboo, steel or glass straws at cost. The financial impact to the AS was next reviewed and Kramer said single-use plastic straws cost .004 cents each, for an annual cost of approximately $570 (144,000 straws). If they go with paper straws, cost for each straw is 2.8 cents, for an annual cost of $4,032 – a difference of $3,975. Kramer explained the benefits of converting to paper straws, noting that it’s a simple solution to a major source of waste, direct and immediate impact to our eco footprint, increases effectiveness of the existing recycling programs on campus and there is no training or equipment conversion required. The committee discussed the benefits to converting to this program and Clyde said Dining Services would absorb the increased cost for the paper straws. Rogers asked about plastic lids and Kramer said they could begin with straws then perhaps transition to recyclable lids later. Corona asked if there’s anything negative about going to paper straws and Kramer said at Hula’s they sometimes get push back from those with children who want plastic straws. Foisy said she would look into switching out straws to a compostable version in the bookstore. It was the consensus of the committee to go forward with the straw-less campaign.

B. Information Item: Sutter Dining Updates – Knapp presented the Sutter Dining updates to the committee and said they have totally revamped the student supervisor program in order to foster and create leadership skills for students. She said student supervisor training in January/February includes trainings for supervising their peers, food safety, station rotation, as well as preventing harassment & discrimination. In addition, lead student training was held in January and was led by student supervisors. • Knapp said a new allergen awareness program has been launched as there are many students with allergies. She said every menu item/station now has an allergen alert sign, which should help students figure out what they can eat. She said in addition, there’s a clipboard with further information at each area for student servers to refer to. • Knapp said they have also launched a food waste reduction campaign. She said Phase 1 is education and signage. Phase 2 was a “scrape your own plate” which provided a visual for students of food composting as well as food waste. Phase 3 was a visual display of one day of compost. Knapp said
in addition, they created a visual impact of edible food being wasted daily. They are hoping by taking these steps that it will cause a reduction in post-consumer food waste. • Knapp said a new marketing coordinator started in September and she is updating the AS Dining webpage as well as refreshing customer feedback forms. Discussion was held.

C. Information Item: Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) and Certificates of Deposit for quarter ending 12/31/17 – Jennings provided an overview of both reports, noting that interest earned in LAIF came to $40,977. She noted under the Certificates of Deposit in the Wildcat Store line, that $4,562 of interest was earned.

VI. DINING SERVICES DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Clyde reported that the new Pepsi contract is still being prepared. She said part of the Pepsi contract included vending; however, currently, We Serve is doing our vending and they provided a RFP for vending services. Clyde said Pepsi does not do snacks in their vending machines, which wasn’t taken into count on the calculation. She said Pepsi came back with a mixed strategy for commission percentages for drinks. Clyde said We Serve came back with a 45% commission structure and we’ll be moving forward with them. In addition, We Serve will continue to do the vending snacks. She said Pepsi will still give provide all the new vending machines. Corona asked what We Serve’s current rate is and Clyde said 40%. • Clyde said Dining Services is in the process of contracting with Susan Wilke, a designing consultant, regarding next year’s Sutter Dining contract. She said they need her expert opinion regarding anytime dining – students would no longer swipe their cards for meals. She explained that many universities are moving toward this and University Housing (UH) is interested. Clyde noted that the way our current contract is with UH that it puts all the risk on the AS, none on Housing. She said Wilke advised that Chico State charges considerably less for meal plans than others, so anytime dining might not work for us. She said UH is currently charging the most they can. Clyde said Wilke will also look at the possibility of Sutter Café becoming more of a retail service area. Discussion was held regarding the anytime dining program as well as the various meal plans currently offered.

VII. CHICO STATE WILDCAT STORE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Foisy presented a comparison of Rush week 1 and 2 sales, and noted that they continue to see a downward trend. She next reviewed the fall 2018 textbook strategy and said they are working to increase adoption compliance by instructors because traditionally 30% of instructors turn in their book orders two weeks before class starts. Foisy said they are looking to implement Follett Discover software which integrates better with campus. She also explained that they are looking to shelve textbooks by A to Z, explaining that instead of books being sorted by class, they would be sorted by author. She said students would get a URL sign, which gives them a shopping list for their textbooks. She said this should make it easier for students to navigate the purchasing of textbooks. Discussion was held and Foisy noted that there would be one tag that lists classes the book is used for. • Foisy reviewed new products in the bookstore.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Absent

IX. VP APPOINTEE’S REPORT – Aguirre reported that BMUC talked about the Union and WREC Facility Master Plan that will go into detail for the next one to five years, then the next 10 years.

X. CHAIR’S REPORT – Rogers said University Vice President Robbi Stivers approved increasing the number of vending machines in our current Food Service contract to 33 machines. He said this will allow for placement of a vending machine at the University Farm. • Rogers said he fell behind on language for the Textbook Scholarship Policy, but will get it done soon.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

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

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – The Chair, Rogers, adjourned the meeting at 2:47 p.m.