**Legislative Affairs & Lobby Corps Minutes of November 22, 2013**

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair **Leopold** calls meeting to order at **3:30 PM.**
2. ROLL CALL

Members Present Absent Members Guests

Jordan Leopold Marie Alexandra R. Ibarra Michelle Xiong

John Quach Derek Aitken

Leilani Camarillo Monica Juarez

Shuaib Amiri Rosa Hernandez

David Lopez

1. ACTION ITEM **- Approval of the Agenda**

**Amendment I: (Quach) to add Information Item – AB 540 Students.**

**Motion Carries as amended.**

**Amendment II: (Quach) to add Information Item – Guide to Advocacy and to table items VII and VIII.**

**Motion Carries as amended.**

**Motion: (Camarillo) to approve the agenda.**

**Motion Carries.**

1. ACTION ITEM **– Approval of the Minutes of October 25, 2013**

**Chair Leopold approves the Minutes of October 25, 2013.**

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Public Comment is intended as a time for any member of the public to address the committee on any issues affecting ASI and/or the California State University, East Bay.**

No Public Comment.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. INFORMATION ITEM **– ASSIGNING OF LEGISLATION**

Chair **Leopold** addresses the following:

* Currently, there are two year bills that are still in the senate and assembly that they have a chance to overview and do research on, and as a whole create a stance on them.

ASI President **Xiong** states the following:

* In January, all of the legislators come back in session and there are a lot of bills that are now two year bills. These bills are the ones CSSA will be supporting this year and she wants ASI and this committee to look at these bills along with her and Jordan to see which ones they really support. But as a part of CSSA, they’ll be supporting all of the bills that CSSA supports. These bills are important for when they have CHESS. Everyone on this committee will be going to CHESS, which is an annual event where all 23 campuses go to Sacramento to lobby the legislators on these bills.

Chair **Leopold** gives an overview and explanation of the document that contains the bills.

ASI President **Xiong** mentions that they should keep an eye out for bills that were grouped together where some passed but others didn’t like the Cal Grant Bills where a few passed but some didn’t.

Chair **Leopold** states that he will send the committee the excel spreadsheet with the bills and he wants them to mark the top 5 bills that interest them and they’ll do further research on those top 5. Also, he wants for the committee to include their thoughts on why they should support or oppose a certain bill. He would like for them to give a quick report on their findings at the next meeting. There are about 20 assembly bills and 13 senate bills. He further offers his assistance in helping them figure out their top 5 if they need it.

**Amiri** mentions that they really want to see which bills their legislator would be interested in and tie this in when choosing a bill.

**17:14 – part I**

1. INFORMATION ITEM – **GUIDE TO ADVOCACY**

Chair **Leopold** addresses the following:

* He made a power point on this topic and he’ll send it to the members.
* Goes through the main points/general overview:
  + Steps: know who your legislator is, set up an appointment with your legislator, prepare for the visit with them, and advocate.
  + Get to know legislator – explains how knowing the legislators background can help in shaping lobby visits and building connections with them.
  + Get to know the aids – explains how building a good relationship with the legislators office will build a good relationship with the legislator.
  + Explains the delegation of roles for the committee when they make visits to legislators.
  + Effective communication
  + Writing to legislator
* Asks that the committee members to really look over this power point and states that it is essential knowledge that they need to have when approaching their legislators and conducting the meetings with the legislators.
* The committee discusses what would happen if they weren’t able to attend a meeting with their selected legislator – another member of the committee would go in their place.

**25:13 – part I**

1. INFORMATION ITEM – **VOTER REGISTRATION EFFORTS**

Chair **Leopold** addresses the following:

* Last year, the Director of Legislative Affairs partnered up with Rock the Vote in regards to vote registration records.
* CSSA is looking for a third party to use for voter registration throughout the CSU so all CSU’s can use the same organization.
* Wanted to get feedback from the committee on how often they should conduct voter registration and how they should go about it.
* **Amiri** mentions that a professor on campus created a new app for voters during voting season that allows you to look at all the bills on your phone. This allows the information to be accessible to students because the problem is that a lot of them don’t know what they’re voting for.
* **Amiri** also mentions that there are already people on campus that are having people sign petitions for the voting year. He believes that they can start asking people to sign up to vote during the spring quarter and they can do this every week or every day during the week they can table for it.
  + **Quach** mentions that they should build a team beforehand of possible volunteers to help with this. He further mentions that for deciding the organization that all CSU’s partner up with, they need to look into the organizations history and see if there is one organization out there that can do this.

Chair **Leopold** mentions possible organizations that they can partner up with for the voter registration efforts and states that he’s already touched base with some of them. He states that he will contact Dr. Jennifer Ong about partnering with the Women’s League of Voters for their voter registration efforts. Implementing the third party organization to partner up with for all CSU’s to work with hasn’t been finalized but it’s just something in the talks and would be voluntary, it may not be implemented this year.

The committee discusses doing their voter registration sign ups every week rather than every day, and they also discuss having it at different locations throughout the campus.

* **Amiri** suggests that they not have it at night, and that they show their ID’s to people when asking them to register. Also, to make sure that they’re presentable.
* Chair **Leopold** states that they could possibly have it during rush hour, around 12-2pm. He further discusses possibly partnering with the Women’s League of Voters.
* **Camarillo** states that her aunt is in a nonprofit organization that does voter registration and this is something she can talk to her aunt about.

**05:52 – part II**

1. INFORMATION ITEM – **AB 540 STUDENTS**

Chair **Leopold** addresses the following:

* This is something Michelle wanted to discuss.
* An AB 540 student is an undocumented student. Michelle wanted to possibly write a resolution supporting AB 540 students because they have a lot of trouble within the system due to them not having a social security number.
* **Camarillo** mentions that Michelle stated there was a new thing where these students can now get grants, and she wanted to let these students know that ASI had information regarding this for them.
* They could possibly tie this in with their political week.
* They should push for voter registration at any event that they have.
* The committee discusses having voter registration for one day during political week but not at all of their events.
* The committee discusses possibly having a raffle for people that register to vote or giving them a sticker.
* **Amiri** mentions that the purpose for them being involved with AB 540 students is because the bill passed but a lot of students don’t know about it. So they want to make students aware.
* **Camarillo** mentions that this could be a touchy subject so she isn’t sure how many students will actually come up to the table to discuss it.
  + The committee discusses dispersing this information to these students via email, social networks, ASI website, etc.
  + **Amiri** mentions that if they had a formal event where they invite the entire campus, hopefully this will make those students more likely and comfortable to attend. They could tie in a main topic that relates to this so people will be interested, and they can have tables set up with attorney’s that deal with this.
  + **Quach** mentions that there could be controversy during the event due to some people being against the support for AB 540 students.
    - Chair **Leopold** states that the AB 540 students are students like all of them and their responsibility is to help all of the students.
* The committee discusses collaborating with the diversity center and different clubs, orgs, and fraternities, and sororities for this event.
* Chair **Leopold** states that he was planning on having the political week during mid-winter.

**20:39 – part II**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. INFORMATION ITEM **– STUDENT AMBASSADOR**

Chair **Leopold** addresses the following:

* If they enact this committee separately then they would get paid per meeting.
* If they enact this into this committee then they would just have more duties to fulfill.
* The Student Ambassador Committee/Program was proposed by Seetha last year and the purpose of it was to create more of a connection on a local level. The people would be attending city hall meetings.
* **Amiri** suggests that they could start small in the city of Hayward and then expand it – this will be a trial run for this.
* The committee discusses whether or not the student ambassador should be a separate/subcommittee or if it should just be an added responsibility to this committee.
* **Quach** suggests having one or two people from this group be the student ambassadors during the trial run.
* To assess this, they should all attend one of the city of Hayward meetings as a group.

**32:23 – part II**

1. DISCUSSION ITEM **– POLITCAL EVENTS**

Chair **Leopold** addresses the following:

* Plan is to have it in the middle of winter quarter.
* The committee discusses having it after midterm week or in the third week of classes.
* The committee discusses having the event in the MPR.
* **Quach** suggests that they find out what issues students are concerned about and have events centered around that.
  + Chair **Leopold** mentions that they could have a discussion event.
* The committee discusses the logistics about getting the event done.
* The committee discusses other possible events to have within this week: diversity, culturalism, student issues, guest speakers, women in the military, economic inequality, movie nights, and educational event describing what democrats and republicans stand for.
* The committee discusses the article in the Pioneer newspaper regarding ASI and how students don’t really know what ASI does.
* **Quach** suggests that the student ambassador also be someone whose responsibility is to educate students on what ASI does.
* The committee discusses having incentives at the events and these incentives could be ROTC, attorney’s, guest speakers, etc.
* **Amiri** mentions that they don’t have to do it every day of the week but they really want it to be successful and for people to attend.

**25:29– part III**

1. ROUNDTABLE REMARK

**Amiri**: The Great Debate is happening in two weeks. It’s sponsored by Chabot College but it’s related because it’s on educational reform in Hayward. He’ll be speaking and they need more people from CSUEB.

**Leopold**: Expresses his excitement for this committee and their upcoming work. He also wants them to do a quick report on their legislators in the next meeting.

1. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at **5:12 PM.**

Minutes Reviewed By:

**Legislative Affairs Committee Chair**

**Name: Jordan S. Leopold**

Minutes Approved on:

**12/6/13**

**Date:**