



Associated Students of College of San Mateo

Student Senate Minutes (Approved)

Monday, April 26, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:18 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Joseph Nguyen; Vice President Dyana Huaraz; Vice Chair Andrianna Pellini; Finance Director Anthony Frangos; Secretary Livienna Lie; Senators Janice Cheung, Kyle Guanzon, Mele Ikahihifo, Suzy Ito, Jessie Liu, Anna Mahoney, Andrea Morales, Htet Thiri Naing, Natalie Zamora

Advisors Present: Aaron Schaefer, Student Life and Leadership Manager; Fauzi Hamadeh, Student Life and Leadership Assistant

Others Present: Tom Bauer, Vice Chancellor for Auxiliary and Community Services

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Senator Zamora; seconded by Senator Mahoney. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

The minutes of the April 19, 2021, meeting was unavailable. Hearing no objections, this item was tabled until the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

Due to Vice Chancellor Bauer's schedule, Mr. Hamadeh asked that New Business Item A, Update on District Basic Needs Initiative, be taken up next. Hearing no objections, the order of the day was suspended, and the Senate moved to the item.

UPDATE ON DISTRICT BASIC NEEDS INITIATIVE

Tom Bauer, Vice Chancellor for Auxiliary and Community Services, presented to the Senate on behalf of the District's Basic Needs Initiative. The task force, which is made up of representatives from across the district, wants to address three student basic needs: food insecurity, housing insecurity, and mental health.

Mr. Bauer shared a presentation on the initiative and reported that the task force has soft launched a program called the Rapid Response Hotel Stay Program. If a student is homeless or facing homelessness, the district will provide short term-hotel accommodations while working with the student to find more stable housing. The program currently has \$100,000 in seed money through the end of May. After that, the Basic Needs Task Force will take the summer to assess and improve the program. There is also hope that additional funding of up to \$1 million will be coming from the state to help support the program.

Vice Chancellor Bauer is interested in exploring ways that the Associated Students can partner with the Basic Needs Initiative, primarily around food or transportation. Mr. Bauer was recently informed of restrictions on the

way that the Associated Students can spend their funds, including prohibitions against direct support to students. There is going to be a meeting tomorrow with the Student Life and Leadership staff, Vice Chancellor Bauer, and the district's CFO to discuss options.

In addition, Mr. Bauer noted that because the campus cafeterias are closed, students in the food insecurity program are currently receiving Safeway gift cards. There are currently ongoing discussions about how the district will be reopening food service. He also mentioned that since the district partnered with Second Harvest for community food distribution in April 2020, over 41,000 families have been provided with over 2 million pounds food, which is valued at \$3.7 million. Mr. Bauer recognized Finance Director Frangos for volunteering at the community food distribution sessions.

Mr. Hamadeh asked how many students may be in need of housing assistance. Mr. Bauer said that over the course of a year, 90 students at CSM alone have needed assistance. He noted that this is most likely only a fraction of the need because students have to self-identify.

Vice Chancellor Bauer said that he would be happy to return in the summer or fall to provide the Student Senate an update on the housing program and other initiatives. He would also like to add a student representative to the task force. Finally, Mr. Bauer encouraged the Senate to spread the word about the housing program.

At conclusion of this item, the order of the day was resumed.

REPORTS

Vice President Huaraz reminded everyone that the polls for the Spring 2021 Election are now open. She encouraged everyone to vote for next year's student government.

Following up on Vice Chancellor Bauer's statements, Mr. Schaefer noted that the limitations on how the Student Senate can expend its funds are based on the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) Associated Student Body Accounting Manual, Fraud Prevention Guide and Desk Reference. He is hopeful that the conversations Mr. Bauer has initiated will lead to clarification and flexibility around how ASCSM's funds may be utilized.

Mr. Hamadeh reiterated that online polls went live today. So far, 55 votes have been cast. That is out of a total of 7,906 eligible voters. He encouraged members of the Senate to spread the word about the election and ask their friends, classmates, and club members to vote. Each student should have received an email with a unique link to the ballot. Mr. Schaefer noted that the 50-vote minimum threshold has been reached, which means that the election will be considered valid. Mr. Hamadeh reminded members of the election commission that they must remain neutral, and that they are not to endorse any candidate.

APPOINTMENTS

None.

LEGISLATIVE BILLS

None.

DEBRIEF OF ASCSM EVENTS

Senator Morales reported that the student panel held last week went well. There were good and organic conversations amongst students and administrative staff. The panel was recorded and will hopefully be posted to the next Bulldog Bulletin as well as the MCCDC's Instagram.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Zero textbook cost presentation
- Update on new library services program and summer and fall plans

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Hamadeh announced that the remaining ICC meetings for the semester have been canceled. He also stated that the Chancellor Claire will be recommending Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza to the Board of Trustees as CSM's next president. If the Board approves her appointment, Dr. Taylor-Mendoza will start at CSM on July 1.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:52 p.m. by Senator Mahoney; seconded by Vice Chair Pellini. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Livienna Lie
ASCSM Secretary