



Associated Students of College of San Mateo

Student Senate Minutes (Approved)

Monday, March 30, 2020

Meeting via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:20 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Andrew Young; Vice President Max Gaines; Finance Director Chun Wai (Mark) Wong; Secretary Livienna Lie; Vice Chair Candela Graciarena; Senators Josephine Cheung, Ariana Davarpanah, Giselle Espinoza, Malik Griffin, Sajan Gurung, Dyana Huaraz, Lauren Lazalde, Joseph Nguyen, Abdel Rahman Al Najjar, Chetesh Singh, Shiyun Tao, Alexis Williams, Gabriella Yuen

Members Absent: Senator Gabriella Van Eijk

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING(S)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, March 16, 2020, meeting by Senator Lazalde; seconded by Senator Gurung. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

REPORTS

President Young reported that he met with CSM Acting President Kim Lopez. They discussed the issue of student grading for the spring semester. President Lopez stated that the State Chancellor's Office is evaluating Title 5 and will be making recommendations to the districts. There is also a task force at the District level that is looking at issues such as grading, refunds, financial aid, withdrawal options, and other matters. Representatives from the three Associated Students organizations in the District will be meeting with Interim Chancellor Claire soon to provide feedback and input. President Young also reminded the group that the spring Commencement Ceremony has been delayed, not canceled. He is looking forward to the Student Senate discussing options for its response and moving forward with the Spring General Election.

Student Life and Leadership Manager Schaefer thanked everyone for taking the time to meet during Spring Recess. After discussing with the members of Executive Board last week, Mr. Schaefer is requesting that all the boards plan to begin meeting again the week after Spring Recess. Board chairs should send agendas to Mr. Hamadeh, who will put schedule the meetings in Zoom. Mr. Schaefer would like the boards to begin brainstorming ways to serve students for the remainder of the spring semester.

Mr. Schaefer reported that at the Mangers Meeting earlier in the day, Emily Barrick, who is coordinating the District's COVID-19 health response, shared that in California, the infection curve is getting better because of social distancing policies and shelter in place orders. The curve is not where experts would like it to be, but it is showing improvement. The

peak for deaths in California is expected around April 25 with approximately 100 deaths per day. Ms. Barrick also reported that shelter in place orders may extend through the end of June. Mr. Schaefer encouraged members of the Senate to remind their peers about social distancing and minimizing unnecessary group travel.

In order to help address the isolation brought about by the shelter in place orders, Mr. Schaefer asked each board to develop a plan for a virtual town hall. The town hall can be structured around each board's area of focus. For example, Executive Board could do a town hall looking at general student needs while the Programming Board could do a town hall soliciting input on the kinds of programming students would be interested in engaging in over the next few months.

Mr. Schaefer stated that this week Mr. Hamadeh would be sending a message to club officers and advisors encouraging them to start virtual meetings for their groups. In addition, the candidate packets for the Spring General Election will be available online starting Monday, April 6. Mr. Schaefer asked members of the Senate to start promoting the elections and encouraging students to run.

Student Life and Leadership Assistant Hamadeh said that, according to news reports, the shelter in place orders in San Mateo County and other parts of the Bay Area would be extended through at least May 1. The official announcement is expected in the coming days. Mr. Hamadeh also stated that the college held a virtual town hall for faculty and staff on Friday, March 27. During that town hall, Acting President Lopez did reiterate that a decision regarding the instruction modality for summer session would be made in the days after Spring Recess. The College and the District are working to make the summer and fall registration process as smooth as possible given the current situation. Mr. Hamadeh reiterated President Young's earlier announcement that Commencement has been postponed and not canceled.

APPOINTMENTS

None.

LEGISLATIVE BILLS

None.

DEBRIEF OF ASCSM EVENTS

None.

COVID-19 UPDATE AND RESPONSE

Mr. Hamadeh reported that he and Mr. Schaefer had contacted the District Foundation as a possible venue by which to distribute the emergency support funds approved by the Senate. After reviewing the Foundation's process and requirements, there was a sense that other avenues should be explored. The student government at Evergreen Valley College have setup a similar program. Mr. Schaefer and Mr. Hamadeh are looking at using EVC's process as a model and are in the process of gathering more information. In addition, Mr. Hamadeh stated that he and Mr. Schaefer are working with the Business Office to develop a way to process check requests electronically.

Mr. Hamadeh also reported that he had received a promotional email that advertised "success kits" that could be customized and sent to students. While the kits were expensive, the idea behind them might be worth exploring. It might also be worth it to send a message to all students co-signed by President Young and Acting President Lopez that talks about what student government is doing. Additionally, Mr. Hamadeh encouraged members of the Senate to respond to the District survey that went out this week.

Vice Chair Graciarena asked if there was any information about the Chromebooks that were distributed to students. Mr. Hamadeh stated that although approximately 300 students from CSM said they needed laptops, only about 120 showed up to pick up the devices. CSM staff are in the process of contacting the students who did not pick up the laptops to find out if they still needed them. Mr. Schaefer asked if members of the Senate had heard from anyone who did not receive a laptop. Members of the Senate had not.

Senator Davarpanah asked if members of the Senate could help support the College's efforts. Mr. Hamadeh said that we would have to coordinate with the Administration. Mr. Schaefer reported that the SparkPoint programs at the three colleges are coordinating on a community market that will rotate among the campuses. Mr. Schaefer will share more information when it is available.

ASCSM SPRING 2020 GENERAL ELECTION AND STUDENT TRUSTEE NOMINEE ELECTION

Mr. Hamadeh reported that the election timeline is being revised to accommodate our "new normal." Candidate packets will still be available starting Monday, April 6, and the Mandatory Candidates Meeting will take place on Thursday, April 23, via Zoom. Polls will open on Monday, April 27, and close at 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, April 30. Results will be announced on Friday, May 1. Due to the campus closure, the need for candidates to collect signatures to place their names on the ballot is being eliminated. There will also be no write-in candidates.

President Young asked how the changes may impact the election. Mr. Hamadeh stated that he hoped to see an increase in the number of voters because voting would be easier. However, the major challenge will be recruiting candidates. Mr. Hamadeh has an appointment next week with a technician from ITS who is looking at possible in-house ways to conduct voting. The goal is to make the voting process as easy as possible while also ensuring the integrity of the election.

President Young asked if the software the District just purchased to reach students via text could be utilized to help promote the election. Mr. Hamadeh stated that he would be finalizing the election website and the online candidate registration site so that he and Mr. Schaefer could start working with the Community Relations and Marketing Department to push out information to students. Mr. Schaefer encouraged members of the Senate to speak to their peers about joining student government.

Senator Espinoza asked if a website would be setup with information about the candidates. Mr. Schaefer stated that a website will be published that contains the candidate's photos and election statements. The site may also be expanded to include promotional or informational videos. Plans for a virtual town hall can also be explored.

PLANS FOR SPRING 2020

Mr. Schaefer suggested carrying this item over to a future meeting in order to discuss ideas generated by the boards.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:59 p.m. by Vice Chair Graciarena; seconded by Senator Nguyen. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Submitted by,

Fauzi Hamadeh
Student Life and Leadership Assistant