

UConnPIRG Core Meeting Minutes, 18-03  
Sunday August 27, 2017, 7 PM  
SU 214

Voting Members: Kharl Reynado, Walter Dodson, Cassandra Saxton, Kelly Flanagan, Justin Kaiser, Ian Beattie, Emmett O'Donnell, Matthew Talley, Alex Pawlak, Noah O'Connor, Bob Hannan, Matthew Byanyima, Antonio Cajigas, Jiapeng Guo, Andrew Frosti, Emily O'Hara

Non-voting Members: Vincent Cajigas

Guests: Krista O'Brien (Triad Coordinator) Arielle Mizrahi (Campus Organizer)

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Kharl Reynado

- I. Introductions
- II. Brief Updates: NSF (Emily) and Campaigns: 100% (Walter), H&H (Casey), Democracy (Matt), Textbooks (Kharl), Styro (Justin)
  - a. NSF Updates (Emily and Walter)
    - i. 8-hour National Student Forum. 8 states with chapters, 2 representatives from each state. Discuss national goals, messaging, campaign ideas, and victories. NVP preparation is beginning now. National political director updates were provided, especially on funding.
    - ii. Looking at building committees for campaigns, ideas, and various subsets of PIRG
    - iii. No new name yet, but the power is in the hands of the students in terms of rebranding. Soft-launch in rebranding in January, hard launch in August of next year.
  - b. Campaign Updates
    - i. Textbooks (Kharl): Student education, especially towards freshmen. Getting in touch with the library to hopefully work with it again.
    - ii. Hunger and homelessness (Casey): Focus is H&H week. Different topic each day. Ex: Wednesday; Flint, MI. Thursday; local H&H. Spare change drives.
    - iii. Styrofoam (Justin): Visibility. Use the campaign to raise awareness for the organization and to gauge the campus's perception.
    - iv. Democracy (Matt): Objective is ranked choice voting (RCV). Raise awareness about why we need to improve our politics. Fair Representation Act introduced. Looking to get a panel/forum. Wants to work internally w/USG to establish RCV in elections, proposing the idea.
    - v. Bees (Emily): Goal is rounding out the Bee Campus USA application, building awareness, and serving the environment and the community. Visibility is always a priority with STB, so positive messaging, bright awareness tables, and well-publicized service-learning projects will be key.
    - vi. 100% Renewables—Lead (Walter): Moving away from pipelines because the CT supreme court blocked the pipeline we were fighting against. Goal: try to get UConn to pledge to commit to 100% renewable energy by 2050. The plan presently in place is for us to go carbon neutral, which means that for all of the energy we use, we invest the same amount in dollars in renewable sources. Set the precedent for the entire region. Hampshire

UConnPIRG Core Meeting Minutes, 18-03  
Sunday August 27, 2017, 7 PM  
SU 214

College and Cornell University already pledged to go 100% renewable energy.

- III. Recruitment Drive: Why we do it
  - a. Time to recruit people to the campaign in order to be effective on all levels
  - b. We want as many people as possible to join us
- IV. Goals for the recruitment drive
  - a. Timeline
    - i. Week 1, Week 2, Kick-off Week, straight into campaign work
  - b. Goal for the Kick-Off
    - i. 110 people into the room
    - ii. See previous meetings' minutes for breakdown of interest cards and tactics
- V. Tactical coordinators
  - a. Tabling Coordinator: Justin Kaiser
    - i. Good way to reach the public.
    - ii. First 4 tables are on Tuesday. Welcome back tables. Bees (Fairfield Way), textbooks (McMahon dining hall), democracy (Northwest dining hall), hunger and homelessness (Towers dining hall)
    - iii. Last 2 tables are on Friday. Styrofoam (Whitney Dining Hall) and 100% renewable energy (Fairfield Way)
  - b. Databasing Coordinator: Ian Beattie
    - i. Easiest way to use and access interest cards is in the database. These cards need to be put in by people. 1-3 PM Monday-Friday.
  - c. Class Raps Coordinator: Emily O'Hara
    - i. Trainings for raps are being done by Emily. See her. We get the most interest cards from class raps. We need people to both rap and to collect.
  - d. Phonebanking Coordinator: Walter
    - i. Interest cards gathered are called. Asking people to come to our kick-off meeting. Encouraging them to get involved with us.
- VI. Sign-Ups
- VII. Business
  - a. Purchase orders being submitted to PIRG. Voted before the semester started, correcting previous mistakes. Had rate increases for PIRG staff set at \$150, will be paying Organizing Director \$120 an hour.
  - b. Alex Pawlak motions to approve the rate change from \$150 to \$120.
    - i. Walter Dodson seconds the motion
    - ii. Passes unanimously
  - c. Alex Pawlak motions to pay the PIRG lobbyist at a per student-per event rate, as opposed to an hourly rate.
    - i. Ian Beattie seconds the motion
    - ii. Passes unanimously
- VIII. Speed Training (Kharl)
- IX. Wrap-Up

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 by Kharl Reynado

UConnPIRG Core Meeting Minutes, 18-03  
Sunday August 27, 2017, 7 PM  
SU 214

Minutes submitted by Emily O'Hara