

*UConnPIRG Core*

Minutes

[10/22/14]

SU Room 410

Meeting called to order at: 7:05 PM

**Attendees:** Emma Kraner, Christian Allyn, Jeffrey Santi, Joseph Tomastik, Anna Montenegro, Christine Atallah, Adedoyin Ladoja, Joan Rodriguez, Amy Robinson, Matt Roe, Katherine McLeese, Thomas Chadwick, Tom McGlone, Sam Hollister, Saman Azimi

Also in attendance: Donna Farvard, Gina DeVivo Brassaw

- **Campaign Updates**
  - **New Voter's Project**
    - Registration deadline was Tuesday and Blitz is over
      - Collected 1374 registrations!
    - The rest of the campaign will be about getting out the vote
    - Pizza and wings party coming up
  - **Textbooks**
    - Textbooks forum went very well
      - Senator Blumenthal backing a bill to create federal grant program for writing of open source textbooks
      - Sally Reiss also attended and supported our stance
        - Made a commitment to work with us, Co-Op, USG, to implement open source textbooks pilot program to have them available next semester
    - New campaign goal: make sure the university follows through, further work with Sally Reiss
      - Follow-up meeting next week with Sally Reiss
    - Talking with professors to get them signed on to support the pilot program
      - Focus on professors with large entry level classes
      - Rep. Greg Haddad is interested in setting up a statewide textbooks program
    - Working on more media coverage (Daily Campus has only run an article on the USG resolution)
    - Want to form a coalition of student groups for the cause
    - Idea to bring a rep from Minnesota to talk with administration and Sally Reiss
  - **Hunger and Homelessness**
    - Clothing drive happening all of October will continue
      - Continuing that until the end of the year
    - Partnering up with Joe Coastal
      - Working with him to have people attend one of his classes on November 15<sup>th</sup>
        - Money earned will be taken to a charity, will be taken care of online

- Helped the community outreach program today by asking students to offer a flex pass to support shelter in Willimantic and Mansfield food bank
    - Food Drive in November
  - **Zero Waste**
    - Saman went to luncheon with leaders from all environmental groups on campus
      - Leader of EcoHusky wants to set up a group called “E-coalition” so all these groups can meet together monthly
        - Great resource going forward
  - **Transportation**
    - Moving the forum to next semester after the elections
- **Chapter Updates**
  - Pushing up State Board meeting from the 25<sup>th</sup> to November 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Elections for State Board coming up
- **Minutes**
  - Saman motions to approve the minutes from October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014
  - Passes unanimously
- **Treasurer’s Update**
  - Reimbursements
    - Matt Swanson for \$5 for voter registration copies
      - Sam motions
      - Tom seconds
      - Passes unanimously
- **Campaigns Discussion**
  - NVP
    - Grand total for voter registrations is 1374
    - Went Well:
      - People who were involved were very committed and did a lot of work personally which should be appreciated
      - Blitz teams got volunteers motivated and to feel like part of a team
      - Tabling is a good visibility tactic
    - Could have gone better:
      - Didn’t have a big volunteer base, had to depend on few volunteers for a lot of the work
      - Need more volunteer input to increase student power
      - We should brand ourselves better
      - Should have one single big event
  - Sam’s program proposal:
    - Take minutes at every project meeting
    - Evaluate strengths and weaknesses every week
    - Share minutes with the exec. board

*Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM*

Minutes submitted by Andrea Hellwig