

UConnPIRG Core Meeting
Tuesday September 29th 2015 at 7:16PM
Student Union Room 320

Attendance:

Voting Members: Adedoyin (Addy) Ladoja, Saman Azimi, Oluwatoyin (Toyin) Akinnusotu, Jordyn Styczynski, Prima Grandante, Abby Katz, Emmett O'Donnell Gwangsu (Ted) Choi, Nick Ravalese, Casey Lambert, Ian Beattie, Bob Hannon, Christian Allyn

Non-Voting Members: Linda Fuller, Alexa Marucci

Guests: Gina DeVivo-Brassaw, Donna Farvard

Meeting called to order at 7:16PM by acting chair Addy.

I. Intros: At the beginning of every UConnPIRG Core meeting it is accustom to ask upon the attendance of the meeting to state their name, class at UConn, and campaign they are working on, if applicable, along with an answer to the posed intro question. The intro question for this meeting, asked by Addy Katz was, "What is your worst fear?" All persons in attendance answered said question with gusto. Discussion ended at 7:17 PM

III. Updates

A. Campaign Updates

Textbooks- Reported by Textbooks Campaign Coordinator Toyin Akkinusotu. There was a propmaking session for Textbooks on the 28th and there will be a table at Northwest tomorrow. Discussion ended at 7:18pm.

Antibiotics- Reported by Antibiotics Campaign Coordinator Abby Katz. Hourly coordinators volunteers are needed for the Wednesday and Thursday lunch table at McMahan. If you are interested, contact Abby through her UConn email. Discussion ended at 7:18pm.

Solar- Report given by Solar Campaign Coordinator Jordyn Styczynski. There will be a table either Thursday or Friday but it is not confirmed yet. There will be a LTE session on September 30th from 4-6 in the office. Discussion ended at 7:19.

Democracy- Reported by Democracy Campaign Coordinator Saman Azimi. There will be a Democracy Clipboarding session on Fairfield Way on Tuesday the 6th of October. Discussion ended at 7:20.

Transportation- Reported by Transportation Campaign Coordinator Christian Allyn. There will be the first campaign meeting of the semester on October 1st and a table on Fairfield Way on the 6th of October from 11-3. Discussion ended at 7:21pm.

B. Chapter Updates

Election- Saman explained the roles of chair and election procedures. The UConnPIRG Chair is responsible for running meetings, making agendas, facilitating chapter decisions, overseeing staff, corresponding with state staff and university administrators, and being the primary contact liaison between UConnPIRG and the University community. Addy opened nominations at 7:24. Saman nominated Jordyn and Jordyn accepted the nomination. Addy nominated Christian and Christian accepted. No other nominations

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were heard and Addy closed nominations at 7:25 and both candidates gave speeches. The floor was opened by Addy to questions:

Addy asked both candidates how they planned to change the image of UConnPIRG?

-**Jordyn** responded that there needed to be a new visibility coordinator position whose responsibility is to project our image on social media.

-**Christian** agreed with Jordyn on promoting UConnPIRG on social media, however we already have a social media coordinator and Christian believed adding another role would be redundant. He stated that a more effective way to change the image of UConnPIRG is to invest in its physical image.

Abby asked Christian about what specifically needed to change?

-**Christian** stated that purchasing a reliable computer, and creating a clean functional office space so that when people come into the office they are impressed with the organization are imperative.

Toyin asked both about how to spend down the surplus?

-**Christian** stated that we must invest in the use of our space, a safe to store petitions and any money in the office, and shoring up our chapters across the state while looking to add another ConnPRIG chapter, most likely on another UConn campus.

-**Jordyn** stated that we must improve and expand our visibility, improve our campus relations, and invest in our staff, possibly adding another position at the state level to work on specific campaigns that the chapter deems important.

Addy asked what negative aspects of UConnPIRG would each candidate change and what made them more qualified to be chair than the other candidate?

-**Christian** stated that he would change the image of the organization by making sure the office clean. Having the office sloppy hurts campus relations with administrators because they believe that UConnPIRG is wasteful and unprofessional. He stated that he has experience in leadership both on and off campus and he would benefit from being the UConnPRIG chair by learning how to facilitate a meeting.

-**Jordyn** stated that she would change campus relations by building stronger ties with the daily campus and administrators by meeting with them regularly and by building friendships with them. She stated that when she commits to something she not only sticks with it but puts her entire energy into it and she is also great with new volunteers and people in general.

Questions ended and discussion began at 7:40pm and both candidates left the room.

Discussion ended at 7:55pm and the candidates reentered the room. Addy announced that Jordyn was elected chair by secret ballot.

The minutes from 9.15.2015 and 9.22.2015 were passed out for the Core to look over during voting on the reimbursements.

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Reimbursements-

Addy entertained a motion to the Core for the following reimburse the UConn Co-op:

\$8.71 Trifold and construction paper for the Textbooks Campaign material.

\$3.32 Trifold for the Solar Campaign.

\$15.95 Ink for the UConnPIRG printer.

Sum- \$27.98 all to the UConn Co-op

Saman made the motion and Jordyn seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 8:00pm.

Minutes- Addy entertained a motion to approve the minutes from 9.15.2015 and 9.22.2015. The motion was made by Saman and seconded by Abby. The motion passed unanimously at 8:02pm.

Saman adjourned the meeting at 8:02pm.

Submitted by,
Christian Allyn
UConnPIRG Secretary