

UConnPIRG Core Meeting Minutes, 18-04
Monday September 4, 2017, 7 PM
SU 214

Voting Members: Casey Lambert (Chair), Walter Dodson (Vice-Chair), Alex Pawlak (Treasurer), Emily O'Hara (Secretary), Matthew Byanyima, Brandon Chesnut, Andrew Frosti, Sam Bedard, Bob Hannan, Matt Talley, Kelly Flanagan, Ian Beattie, Justin Kaiser

Non-voting Members: Nate Aroian, Kyleigh Hillerue, Konstantin Suvorov, Andrew Schroder, Serena Verma, Nicholas Martin, Mariana McDevitt, Emma Kate Foley, Mandi Cole, Chang Sun, Angela Su, Michael Rossi, Christopher Lopez, Timothy Robinson, Vinciyak Misha, Mara Tu, Arya Sayadi, Alex Ercolani, Mark Grigas

Guests: Arielle Mizrahi (Campus Organizer), Sasha Richardson (Advisor)

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by Chair Casey Lambert

- I. Introductions
- II. Campaign Information
 - a. Save the Bees—Emily O'Hara
 - i. Fulfilling Bee Campus USA
 - ii. Asking local restaurants to sign on to the Bee Friendly Food Alliance
 - iii. Some grassroots product—photo petitions
 - b. Ban Styrofoam—Justin Kaiser
 - i. Brand-new campaign; run by UMass, Lowell last semester
 - ii. Visibility oriented
 - iii. Educational→ environmental effects of Styrofoam
 - c. Democracy Campaign—Matthew Byanyima
 - i. Ways to improve democracy
 - ii. Discussing ranked choice voting
 - iii. Looking at challenges that our democracy faces (representation, Fair Representation Act)
 - iv. Law introduced in CT, work with a local politician
 - v. Following lead of Bee Campus USA, potentially USG ranked choice elections
 - d. Affordable Textbooks—Kharl Reynado
 - i. Expanding Open Educational Resources
 1. Chemistry and Calculus classes
 2. Trying to expand to big lecture classes
 - ii. Student survey about how much students spend on textbooks
 - iii. More affordable textbooks in classes
 - iv. Many professors leaning towards OER
 - e. Hunger and Homelessness—Casey Lambert
 - i. Being run by Casey Saxton (not present)
 - ii. Always run, nature of the campaign shifts
 - iii. Looking into getting a food bank on campus
 1. Expanding food-giving program at UConn
 - f. 100% Renewable Energy—Walter Dodson
 - i. Wrote the proposal last semester in the spring
 - ii. Formerly a focus on banning the expansion of pipelines in CT
 1. Gathered 4,000 petitions in support of the goal in one semester

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2. USG delivered a statement of support
 3. CT Supreme Court voted to ban pipeline expansion in CT
 - iii. Campus-centric goal/tangible goal
 1. UConn has 2 climate plans; end goal is Carbon Neutral
 - a. For all of the carbon that we put into the atmosphere, we invest the same amount into clean energy
 2. Going 100% Renewable Energy by 2050 sets the precedent for the entire area
 3. Great for the university to show that we are a sustainable/environmentally friendly school
 - iv. Potential to be influential
- III. Business—Alex Pawlak
- a. Quarterly Bill—pay roll for hired staff, phone charges, reimbursements for travel, new computer for the office: \$2,674.51
 - i. Alex motions to approve the 4th quarterly bill of FY17
 - ii. Matt Talley seconds the motion
 - iii. Passes unanimously
- IV. Recruitment Drive
- a. Overview—Kharl Reynado (Recruitment Drive Coordinator)
 - i. Goal: 110 people at our kick-off meeting (September 13th, 7:00 PM)
 - ii. Presently have 1,430 interest cards (have surpassed our goal)
 1. On track to hit 2,100 by the end of the recruitment drive
 - iii. Kharl proposes that we need to raise the goal to 150 people
 1. For the end of the meeting
 - b. Recruitment Drive Coordinators
 - i. Phonebank—Walter Dodson
 1. Call interested people! Get them involved with us.
 2. Fun because you have honest conversations with people
 3. Every night 6-9 PM (8-9 PM tonight)
 4. Call 50% of all interest cards (1,000 if the goal is 2,000)
 5. Have called 440 people
 - ii. Class Raps—Emily O'Hara
 1. In class announcements with scheduled or target classes
 2. Memorize a rap, hand out cards, deliver it
 3. 25 raps scheduled for next week, goal: 325 interest cards
 - iii. Tabling—Justin Kaiser
 1. Gathered +500 interest cards from 2 tables
 2. 6 tables on Thursday in different places
 - iv. Databasing—Ian Beattie
 1. Input card information to reach out to interested people in order to recruit to our campaigns
 2. Already databased upwards of 1,000 cards
- V. Hourly Coordinator Training—Arielle Mizrahi
- a. Works for phonebanking, databasing, and tabling
 - b. Key to success is having a ton of volunteers and interns

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- i. Recruit, train, track
- c. Trainings tomorrow and Wednesday
 - i. Signing up volunteers to do more

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM by Casey Lambert

Minutes submitted by Emily O'Hara