

UConnPIRG Core Meeting Minutes 18-20
Monday March 5th, 2018, 7 PM
SU 325

Voting Members: Casey Lambert (Chair), Walter Dodson (Vice Chair), Alex Pawlak
(Treasurer),

Kyleigh Hillerud (Secretary), Justin Kaiser, Ian Beattie, Vincent Cajigas, Antonio Cajigas, Sam Donahue, Michael Katz, Andrew Frosti, Noah O'Connor, Casey Saxton, Aaron Golab, Kharl Reynado, Tori Zane, Chadwick Schroeder, Jessica Gagnon, Danielle Hartshorn, Faizaan Siddiqui, Dylan DeMoura, Isabel Umland, Abigail Joseph, Dayna Robinson, Emmett O'Donnell, Gustavo Sazo, Michael Katz, Dayna Robinson, Richard Monroy, Kelly Rafferty, Gabby LaTorre, Chris Kaczegowicz, Abhishek Gupta, Anna Napiorkowski, Cathy Yan, Michelle Wakim, Kim Pissella

Non-voting Members: Joseph Delorenzo

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

Meeting brought to order by chair Casey Lambert 7:02pm

I. Intros

II. Updates

A. Chadwick Schroeder - 100%

- a. Thursday having a solar panel appreciation table where people can win free stuff at McMahan.
- b. This week we are working on LTES.
- c. Kyleigh Hillerud - The rally went great. We had about 50 people there, which Martha Klein from the Sierra Club said was a great turnout for our first rally. There were 3 speakers Alexander Rodriguez from CHISPA a conservation group, Walter Dodson our vice chair who talked about student activism, and Martha Klein the Chapter Chair of the Ct Sierra club who talked about the CES. We had some other people speak, it was a great event. Having this event opens up for other larger statewide events that we might want to do.

B. Noah O'Connor - Democracy

- a. Having 3 tables this week have a total of 856 petitions the goal is 1000.
- b. Panel discussion is going to be two weeks after spring break. Once back from spring break will be doing some phone banking and class raps about the event.

C. Kharl Reynado

- a. NVP -Compiling list of contacts email, building a coalition going into the fall for mid-term elections.
 - b. Textbooks - This week is OER week, promoting open source materials. First presentation is on Friday. We are going into department meetings and presenting why they use open educational resources. Photo petition table in the library for OE week and federal grants, photo petition 12-3 Wednesday.
- D. Tori Zane - ABX
- a. This week phone banking health care professionals for them to sign onto the campaign, emailed several professors.
 - b. Panel set up March 27th.
- E. Abhishek Gupta/Casey Saxton - H&H
- a. Concert sub committee are planning concert. It is going to be 2 hours on April 18th. Are going to need 18 acts, 7 committed contacted 20 acts need 11 more. Talk to Cassey if you know anyone. Business canvassing for charity showcase and trying to get incentives for students to come for our events like coupons
 - b. Table in McMahan on Wednesday
 - c. Updates for cardboard sleepout- April 18th same time as charity showcase. Reach out to different businesses like Home Depot and Lowes, make event bigger.
 - d. Poverty simulation 23rd or 21st of March. The simulation, people can sign up for. Will have aspects of poverty like certain amount of money.
 - e. Started subcommittee for food swipes donations, talking with dining services. Looking at idea grants for surveying about food insecurity on campus.
- F. Justin Kaiser - Zero Waste
- a. Research table on Wednesday night gage public opinion on reusable bag use.
 - b. Got 92 responses if people use reusable bags at previous research table.
 - c. Film screening “Plastic Ocean” on March 28th. Goal to get 100 people in the room.
 - d. Kelly Rafferty - told SWAC what we been doing, they are happy we are working together a fee or savings for using a bag. SWAC says businesses are prepared for a bag ban in the town of Mansfield.
- G. Sam Donahue - Bees
- a. Second highest meeting turnout in the country.
 - b. focusing on school presentations for Mansfield Middle School. Planning activities like a KAHOOT.

III. Announcements

- A. Joe Delorenzo - A USG development point person for Founders Day doing some recruitment. April 22nd, on a Sunday during spring weekend 2 hours long. Day about history of uconn history, should do history of PIRG. Kind of like involvement fair situation.

IV. NSF

- A. Kyleigh Hillerud - Walter and I went to the national student forum last weekend It was great. National updates volunteer rates have gone up 25%, CORE meeting sizes have grown 50%, and kickoff attendances have grown 75%. We talked a lot about rebranding, we mentioned the CORE acronym was not taken well. Everyone but Massachusetts wants the name to be changed from PIRG, not everyone is not thrilled by 'Engage', but states like California really liked it. Then we talked about better documentation, like pictures and how we should all be taking more pictures and put them on social media to prove that we are doing what we say we are doing. Then the Monday we went to lobby Joe Courtney, and John Larson about higher education affordability.

II. Textbooks Grant

- A. Walter Dodson - While in D.C. met with our National higher education advocate along with the Mass chapter chair, Nj chair. Had a meeting staffer from Orin Hatch's office. Orin Hatch is a key member, he's been in senate for 38 years. He's a staunch conservative so his views don't align with ours, but recently since he's retiring he's been interested in higher ed advocacy. Had those meetings with Senator Dick Durbin, Senate Minority Whip where we dropped off the 'thank you' card thanking him for all his work on higher education. On Wednesday he proposed a 10 million dollar grant for national budget dedicated to textbooks, and open educational resources. We are close to winning a national campaign. Relousa and Murphy are both on the appropriations committee. Republicans would support this if democrats made it priority. This week is Open Educational Resource Week, so we are doing a nation wide campaign for one week of call ins, where every table on calling senator blunt, Murphy, and Relousa.
 1. Chad - What its the plan for tables this week?
 2. Walter - We are not suspending all campaign work but at tables though we will all do your ask for you campaigns swell as ask people to call on state legislators as an additional ask
 3. Kharl - Call in now, also whenever you are in the office or at tables take photo-petitions with our 'dear congress adopt the bill...'. Goal is 100 call ins.

III. Campaign selections

- A. Kharl Reynado - Quick timeline for campaign selection the campaign selection process takes about 4 weeks where we discuss campaigns for next semester. Lead campaign proposals for the statewide are due Sunday March 18th. During all activism classes the next few weeks we will be talking about how to create campaign proposals. Anyone who wants to run campaign next semester should go to these classes. The next few weeks we will be talking about how campaigns are created and how they need to be run successfully. New Voters Project is going to be proposed as a statewide campaign because we have mid term elections in the fall. There is an open board call that anyone can How we want state to vote April 8th board meeting anyone welcomed to attend at it will be at the union. Decide campaigns chapter proposals 2 weeks after that mid April we will know strong plan moving on next semester

IV. Business

- A. Justin Kaiser - mugs and bottles for zero waste , they would give away these items for students to use promoting a less wasteful campus. People are more likely to not buy plastic water bottles if they are given the resources. 500 for each reusable water bottle and reusable coffee mugs. They will have zero waste campaign logo, that Isabel will be making.
- B. Casey Lambert - These would be strategic giveaways giving away with like targeting the Dunkin line. Reduce amount of waste on campus Campus waste has increased it is a good push plastic rubber cups 500 of those with zero waste logo Isabel making them to give to uconn students, set a maximum of \$2500.
- C. Discussion - Reusable Water Bottles
1. Walter Dodson - What is the actual cost?
 - a. Casey Lambert - actual estimate \$1890, 4 dollars a bottle but we are motioning for \$2500 for shipping costs.
 2. Kharl - do we have the money?
 - a. Alex Pawlak - Yes
 3. Justin - We can always decrease the number.
 4. Chad- It would be 21 cents less per bottle for 250 without shipping 992.51.
 5. Casey Lambert - These ones are better quality than the “Ban the bottle” ones that we got.
 6. Antonio Cajigas - We don’t want to get cheap ones bc those will end up being wasted.
 7. Abhishek - Thinks we should order 250 and order more next semester test the waters to see how give aways go. Don’t want to get 500 and us not give them all away specifically if we have a name change.
 8. Walter - Did you talk to USG about their water bottle care packages?

- a. Casey Lambert - Yes, same water bottle company.
- 9. Chad - Thinks we should cut it down to 250 bottles.
- 10. Antonio - Keep it at 500 because of the minimal price decrease. Thinks they will be gone.
- 11. Abhishek how does this affect budget?
 - a. Alex - It's not an issue, we have the money to spend
- D. Casey Lambert motions for 500 water bottles for a maximum \$2500
 - 1. Antonio Cajigas seconds
 - 2. In favor: Casey Lambert, Alex Pawlak, Kyleigh Hillerud, Justin Kaiser, Ian Beattie, Vincent Cajigas, Antonio Cajigas, Sam Donahue, Michael Katz, Noah O'Connor, Casey Saxton, Aaron Golab, Tori Zane, Jessica Gagnon, Faizaan Siddiqui, Dylan DeMoura, Abigail Joseph, Dayna Robinson, Emmett O'Donnell, Gustavo Sazo, Michael Katz, Dayna Robinson, Kelly Rafferty, Gabby LaTorre, Chris Kaczegoizz, Abhishek Gupta, Anna Napiorkowski, Cathy Yan, Michelle Wakim, Kim Pissella
 - 3. Opposed: Walter Dodson, Chadwick Schroeder, Richard Monroy, Andrew Frosti, Kharl Reynado, Isabel Umland
 - 4. Motion passes
- E. Discussion - Reusable mugs
 - 1. Walter - Bad idea; we can not solicit in the Union
 - 2. Ian Beattie - Don't spend the money because people will not use them.
 - 3. Michelle Wakim - Don't believe people will use them.
 - 4. Justin - If we get them we should get 250 or less .
 - 5. Chad - agrees with Walter, we should cut number down if we are already buying water bottles we don't need them both.
 - 6. Aaron Golab - not just giving them out, talking with Dunkin manager and cafe for dining services for financial incentives for reusable mugs.
 - 7. Abhishek - likes incentive, but people will get free stuff or buys coffee mug they will get dirty and people will forget it.
 - 8. Casey Lambert - We want to facilitate new habits
 - 9. Michelle - it would be good viz.
 - 10. Gustavo - Should put literature in mugs so having the financial incentive and educating people
 - 11. Tori - it is good with visality
 - 12. Justin - path forward with talking more to dining services and Dunkin.
 - 13. Justin Kaiser motions to table motion till we have more information about incentives.
 - 1. Walter Dodson seconds

2. Motion positions unanimously

I. Treasurer elections

A. Nominees - Sam Donahue, Faizaan Siddiqui

B. Noah O'Connor - What leadership experience have you had in the past?

- i. Samuel Donahue - Was an eagle scout, had to run town projects, had to run meetings with over 100 people there. The past semester was coordinator of bees and the campaign has been successful.
- ii. Faizaan Siddiqui - In high school was treasurer of a Baking Club where there he was in charge of handling big events. Co-creator of a tutoring program, tutoring program still going on communication

C. Alex Pawlack - What is your organizing experiences?

- i. Sam Donahue - his major, accounting, he has to be organizes. As well as running a campaign he has to be organized.
- ii. Faizaan Siddiqui - characterizes materials orderly.

D. Results - Sam Donahue Wins

Meeting adjourned by Chapter Chair Casey Lambert at 8:33pm

Minutes submitted by Kyleigh Hillerud