

UConnPIRG Core Meeting 20-43
Monday November 2nd, 2020, 7 PM
Zoom (remote location due to COVID-19 outbreak)

Voting Members: Colleen Keller (Chair), Dylan DeMoura (Vice Chair), Kyle Cyr (Secretary), Maya Murarka (Treasurer), Erin McConnell, Julia Ward, Chad Schroeder, Rebecca Tripp, Kyleigh Hillerud, Natalie Seier, Leah LePage, Shafina Chowdhury, Dylan DeMoura, Mehdi Namazi, David Vallejo, Monet Paredes, Cheyenne Tavares

Guests: Kurt Daigle (UConnPIRG primary advisor)

- I. Meeting brought to order at 7:04pm by Colleen Keller (Chair)
- II. Introductions
- III. Chapter Updates
 - A. Keller says the Executive team has been working on meetings with many different groups, recovering medically, working on minutes, weekly updates, the mentorship program, and activism class.
- IV. Campaign Updates
 - A. Cheyenne Tavares states NVP is holding an event on campus in collaboration with USG for an Election Day Watch Party. The team is also working with Public Health for social media action. Tavares also reminds everyone to vote.
 - B. Ben Albee shares Save the Earth's update, including a meeting with current president of UCCO B Diaz, who will appear on their podcast. Other work includes working on a mutual aid resource list, a statement of position on the Coke contract, which will be sent to the Student Services committee this week, as well as email professors for extra credit related to the podcast.
 - C. Tripp shares H&H's report. Continued preparation is in the works for Awareness Week, including developing social media challenges. Masks were just approved for purchases. Tripp is also excited after a conversation with Albee for future campaign work.
 - D. Shafina Chowdhury shares Affordable Textbook's video with UCTV will be released towards the end of November. This week, WHUS will release an interview they had with the campaign, and USG and Chowdhury will be meeting people from the Textbooks Exchange Network to finalize work with them. Textbook members are also emailing professors with the survey.
 - E. Julia Ward says Public Health has been focused on their NVP X PH collaboration on Instagram, with information on how to vote safely on Election Day during the pandemic. Leah LePage asks those interested to fill in the form if members are interested in participating in the social media event.
- V. Activity: Ted Talk & Chat Discussion
 - A. The group watches a Ted Talk on "The Antidote to Apathy."
 - B. Albee remarks that work, especially in politics, is a voluntary act.
 - C. Tripp says that the commentary on voices being controlled by money because many of the problems in society disproportionately affect those without a strong financial base, and calling out that can lead to great solutions.

- D. Ward says we must keep in mind that people are innately passionate, as negative voices tend to be the loudest in a political climate with a lack of communication across different viewpoints.
- E. Kyle Cyr adds to Ward's point, as notions that problems are rooted in individual areas lack an interconnected understanding to socio-cultural, political, and economical ideas.
- F. Keller adds a final point that the Nike advertisement was really well done, and really showcases a lot of the ideas the video was talking about.

VI. Business

A. Minutes

- 1. Keller motions to approve the Core meeting minutes from Monday, October 26th, 2020.
- 2. Kyleigh Hillerud seconds.
- 3. Chowdhury, Monet Paredes, Mehdi Namazi, and Natalie Seier abstain.
- 4. Motion passes unanimously.

B. CONNPIRG Contract Update

- 1. Keller gives context on the current situation with CONNPIRG. In summary, UConnPIRG and CONNPIRG have differences concerning the handling of finances and organizational and inclusivity practices. Valuable resources gained from the organization can be gained from other organizations.
- 2. Keller motions to no longer pursue the expenditures to CONNPIRG as approved May 4, 2020.
- 3. Dylan DeMoura seconds.
- 4. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm

Minutes submitted by Kyle Cyr (Secretary)