

Student Union Governance Board - Minutes

March 5, 2021 @ 3:00 PM

Video recorded minutes:

https://wsu.zoom.us/rec/play/LkfeZozbMxTYG1NKVsU0YA2QyIKtonLgre_rX8zGADD8DPaFbeDE1FHh5HXT41wewlkZCUgEVsw2y_T7.i-clEXbbVhzJMr3K

1. Call to Order at 3:03

2. Attendance

- Services and Activities Fee Committee Chair/ASWSUTC President, or designee: **Robin Kovis**
- ASWSUTC Officer: Designee: **Stephanie Warner**
- Student Entertainment Board (SEB) Representative: **Sauri Garcia/Timothy Duenas**
- At-large students (2):
- Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, or designee: Designee: **Ian Jamieson**
- Vice Chancellor for Finance and Admin, or designee: **Ray White**
- SUB Gov Board Chair shall be the Director of Student Engagement & Leadership, or designee: **Evelyn Martinez-Ostrom**

3. Approval of the Agenda/Minutes

- Stephanie moves to approve the **agenda** for 3/5/21, Ian seconded, passed unanimously.
- Robin moves to approve the **minutes** from 2/16/2020, Ray seconded, passed unanimously.

4. CONTINUED Business

5. NEW Business

6. Discussion

- Meaningful discussions about mission/purpose....
- Stephanie:
 - Do other campuses have boards for building?
 - This board is where the fun and connections and places to relax...this board should try to preserve on campus. How do finances work?
- Ray:
 - Taxpayers build classrooms, not stadiums, art galleries, etc. Taxpayers want to teach stuff...
 - Students come along and want their own culture, want these spaces to connect socially as well and have a whole life experience on campus. University co-signed on a loan, university borrows money for you, but students get to design, control, and run the asset.
 - Ray sees it as belonging to students.
 - Ray's role on the board is an observer, support how things work, and his experiences from other campuses.
 - Board is responsible in managing what the asset is used for and deciding how to use it.
- Ian:

- Safety/transportation fee also passed by students for predominantly student run committee to oversee the money and the building...
- More than just a building, it is what it means as a space, venue, or idea of "union."
- Evelyn:
 - College Unions: ACUI
- Timmy:
 - Was there for 1 semester, thought the union was just part of the other buildings. He sees cards saying to clean area because it's your space.
 - He should use it/be here because he pays for the space. This has reminded him about what the SUB is, which is great.
- Robin:
 - Increase communication to students about what the student union is so that they'll have more buy in.
 - Who has room reservation responsibility?
 - Default meeting space for clubs should be for clubs. N&s often not in use so clubs should have their meetings there.
 - What other things can we provide on campus? Car to class, maybe getting some food or things that will get students to stay here.
- Stephanie:
 - Also thought all the building are the same. This building should be apart from every other building on campus. Orientation is a place students learn about the SUB but they don't understand what it means. Get plaque or something to show the significance of SUB.
- Ray:
 - The more you can drive students there and let them know they bought the building and let them know it's their building. Have students go in there to get stuff and do stuff in there.
 - Academic building has a lot of great hang, study, communal area spaces. This dilutes where people go to hang out which could have a negative impact on the SUB. So that identity building is really important.
 - The learning commons is also going to have lounging and study spaces. We should have a conversation to market how it's different from the SUB.
 - Dr. McAteer and Ray talked about orientation. Maybe it should start and end at the SUB, to bolster that identity. New students coming to campus, there's anxiety around that, students good at high school then summer break have to learn new social norms and campus culture. This year, students will have been out of the school environment for much longer than 1 summer. Freshman and sophomore will be the first time on campus.
 - CAN SUB GOV HAVE A LITTLE PIECE OF ORIENTATION, NOT JUST ROOM RESERVATIONS
 - Ray has some ideas of how we can do this.
- Robin:
 - How can we compete with new/redesigned buildings? Advertise those more as quite or true study spaces. SUB should be like clubhouse with music playing, coffee shop, hang out, non-academic space for students.

- Ian:
 - Epiphany as ray AND SUB isn't the shiny new thing anymore. Its great we're getting new things; they should have a connection yet be distant. It's hard to communication what the SUB is without having a mission statement.
 - Let's reinvent what this building is on campus. Let's use it as much as we can to have a reason to grow it.
- Stephanie:
 - Some of her class friends had never been in the building. So, having an enticement to come into the building.
 - Make this a club house, this will distinguish the SUB from the other places.
 - Outside of orientation, when people were in the building for fun and community, there were designees there to help people use the space, they had shirts on identifying them. They were enthusiastic and encouraged students to come in.
 - Can we get a team of hype people to make this happen?
- Timmy:
 - What do people wear when they work?
 - What's important is the interaction of people on campus. When someone says go cougs, when you buy coffee, that interaction is a part of your day and it beneficial for both student and workers.
 - We don't have an eating area where those interactions can happen. We just have a fridge/microwave and there's no interaction.
 - His year on campus, he only heard go cougs at orientation. In pullman, he heard it at least 15 times a day.
 - What is surrounded by the SUB, a plaque for students to look at, banners, décor that is PRIDEFUL.
- Sauri:
 - How are we inviting students in. Sauri didn't enter the SUB her first year. She'd walk by, but didn't go in. She'd hear music but never wanted to go in. She was intimidated by student government and maybe didn't feel like she had a place in there.
 - Then she started working in the coffee shop and went into the building. She didn't know it was in the SUB. There is a barrier for some students to go in. She wasn't informed or knowledgeable about the space.
 - Outdoor seating or flags outside to learn before you enter.
- Ray:
 - Student taskforce on sustainability and security. Activate entrance and sidewalk in front. Dominate that space outside.
 - Sustainability talked about giving out masks, want students to distribute those masks to pick those up.
 - We should be doing ID photos in the SUB, so you feel like you're becoming a member. Music outside shows it's not a quiet study space.

- Trash audit: sort through trash and measure how many pounds could go into recycle instead of trash.
- Give new students a reason to come early, first two weeks, model that behavior.
- Ian:
 - Remember that we all work for entities that are part of the student union and this is the body that controls the budget. If there are things we want in the outdoor spaces, if we want marketing in the union, we can talk about spending on that.
 - Do we need more responsibilities for our staff, to do some of the work? We can use our money to make this happen. We can decide on staffing or furniture, etc.
 - The conversation evolves
 - Organically we develop a budget with our extra money for these improvements...
 - Mission/purpose/budget for next fiscal year
- MISSION VISION CONVO
- Ray:
 - Facility &... facilities don't create engagement, people create engagement. Separate it to say the board manages building and supports the culture...enables.... the facility is a vehicle for this support.
- Robin
 - The sub is a facility that supports campus life for students.
 - Last meeting: as it relates to SEB – salaries under SUB Fee. Maybe all of SEB fees should be under SUB fees.
- Staphanie
 - Add the word building after student union.
- Ian:
 - Previous doc would have said student union building. Two years ago the board voted to change name to own that we're beyond the building.
 - What experiences do we want students to have outside of the classroom that the union can provide...the other route is focused solely on the building.
- Stephanie:
 - We're headed to the student union route. BUT WHAT IS THE STUDENT UNION
 - Grand opening at chick fil a, dinner before, people giving high fives, gave them a baton because it was a tradition that bonded everyone.
 - WHAT IS THE STUDENT UNION? Why did students want the student union?
- Sauri
 - Keeping it as a student union on its own makes it confusing. Founded by students, for students, and is for new students on our campus.
- Ian
 - Home for WSU Tri-Cities student pop should be ALL STUDENTS...should be FOR YOU, YOURS, FOR EVERYONE. Don't be passive in the writing...be more passionate.
- Ray

- Your student union. Your student union board.
- Other mission/vision actions we should list:
 - Ray: WSUTC is a quiet campus, and we should have more activism. Use your voice, conversations that are important to students and society. This is a safe place to have those conversations.
 - Robin: civic engagement could cover this
 - Stephanie: it's not that bold or strong, those things are mindless, what are some bold things we could say.
 - Evelyn: important things are happening in the building.
 - Ian: those things are good to list or show someone but shouldn't be in the statement of why we exist and how we should exist. This building can provide....
 - Ray: do you feel that the student union has an advocacy role for students? A student voice? If you're upset about administration. Would this be a place you could go to air complaints?
 - Robin: that's an ASWSUTC– referral agent, one stop shop for a lot of things.
 - Stephanie: advocacy part – advocate and engage with other students. Feel the WSU spirit.
 - Ian: look at the makeup of this board. Should there be more students, more administrators, etc. What positions do we need?
 - Ray: MOSAIC coordinator could be good on the board. Ray has a voice because of his role, but maybe not in the bigger picture. What other administrative role might work?
 - Stephanie: mosaic coordinator, club presidents?
 - Ian: maybe change name from governance to advisory?
- TO BE CONTINUED

7. Adjourned at 5:04PM